

[PalatinePicklers.com](https://www.PalatinePicklers.com)

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APRIL, 2024 NEWSLETTER

BIONIC BODIES BONDED FOR A BODACIOUS BALL

This annual tournament was as much fun as all the previous ones were. Here's the metal that this year's Pickler participants brought to the gym: Alla-hip ... Bear-hip, knee, 2 biceps, 2 shoulders ... Cindy-shoulder & bicep ... Doris-2 hips ... Gerd-ankle ... Janet-2 knees ... Joe-knee ... John-knee ... Kurt-knee ... Marcia-knee ... Ron-2 hips ... Scott-hip ... Stephanie-knee ... Tom-shoulders & back ... Tommy-hip & knee. In the photo below, we were pointing to our replacement parts.



Front: Stephanie, Doris, Tommy, Marcia. Middle: Cindy, Alla, Scott, Bear, Gerd, Ron, Joe, Tom.
Back: John, Janet, Kurt.

At lunch 6 of the 13 in attendance had already had their profile appear in a Palatine Picklers newsletter. Don't you think it's time for you to request my profile prompter so I can write your profile? We'd all enjoy getting to know you. EVERYONE is interesting in their own way. I'll do you proud. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com and request that "prompter."



CALLING ALL INDOOR MENTOREES – FOR YOUR MAY 7TH TOURNAMENT

If you participated in at least two of our Canlan mentoring sessions, from November through April, you are entitled to play in our season-end Mentoree tournament. It will be in Canlan from 9:00 to Noon and followed by lunch. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to sign up for this tournament. AND tell me if you'll be joining us for lunch a mile away at Kelsey Road House. We've been having two Mentoree Tournaments each year, for – well, almost forever. Most/all of the Mentors you've come to know will be there serving as Refs. They will NOT offer any suggestions or constructive criticism. What they will do is call absolutely EVERY violation, including some of which you're probably unaware. In November we had 23 attend lunch, after the Summer-Fall Mentoree Tournament. We had a great time. I'll take the first 24 Mentorees who apply. The rest of you will be Alternates, in case someone has to drop out.

COME ON, WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

It doesn't matter if you've been married three times since losing your spouse, you ARE a widow. Yes, that's a generic, genderless word. On Thursday, April 18th we'll have a fun tournament at Canlan from 9:00 to almost Noon. THEN we'll drive a mile to Kelsey Road House where we'll have a secluded area to small talk for a few minutes and then get into more serious widow stuff. This will be one of the few times you'll be totally at ease with your widowhood, as everyone there "gets it." Last time we had lots of tears, lots of laughs, lots of

comparing, and lots of sharing. Feel free to bring photos, memory books, poems, stories of both the good and the bad times, memorabilia, etc. We ARE a group who will both understand and appreciate it. Whether you lost your spouse 2 months ago or 20 years ago, please join us. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com.

NEED MORE LONG & SHORT COUPLES

Last chance for you couples* who differ in height by 8" or more to let me know you'd like to have your own tournament. I won't set a date, until I have at least 8 couples*. If I don't get them this month, I'll discard this idea. I know we have more than enough appropriate Pickler couples in the club. Let's get you all together. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to let me know you'd participate, if you schedule allows.

*For this potential tournament, let's redefine "couple." Any two Palatine Picklers who differ in gender and 8" or more in height will be eligible. So if you're short or tall, recruit a partner to whom you could look up or down. For instance. Natalie and Steve at right would easily qualify.

This tournament would certainly illustrate that Picklers do come in all sizes.

As always, after a tournament those who can go to lunch a mile away.



MEET PICKLER SCOTT PFEIFER

It was Park Ridge that welcomed Scott into the world in 1959. Fast forward to Barrington High School class of 1978. He played on the school’s first ever soccer team and also competed on the BHS gymnastics team. Then it was on to Iowa State from which he graduated in 1982, followed by an MBA from Roosevelt University in 1989.

Scott met Ann Marie in “Paradise” ... Paradise Island in the Bahamas. They married in 1986.

After college Scott took a job as a Dock Foreman for a trucking company. That position led to a sales position there. Then he changed industries and became Traffic Manager for a Dutch import company. He says he “hit his stride,” as a U.S. Customs Broker/Freight Forwarder. He started the Chicago office for Masterpiece International in 1994 as Vice President. They specialized in transporting fine arts for major museums in the Midwest. He enjoyed that position until his retirement at the end of 2022.



As for family, Scott and Ann Marie have son Michael, 33 living in Chicago and daughter Julia, 30 also in Chicago. Scott has called home as an adult in Schaumburg, Elk Grove Village, and again in Barrington.



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His hobbies/interests include downhill snow skiing, cross country skiing, water skiing, ice hockey, and travel. As for that last one, Scott has visited 76 countries. (not a typo)

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Pic above is of Julia, Scott, Michael, & AnnMarie atop the Great Wall of China



Riding Bachtrain Camel in Mongolia



Still in Mongolia doing falconry



Michael, Julia, & Scott at Snowmass

Last summer Scott's brother-in-law wanted to learn pickleball so the two of them started coming to Hamilton to learn. He joined the Palatine Pickleball

Club. He thinks the camaraderie is great and loves that most Picklers don't care how good or bad you are. Meeting new Picklers is the best. And, of course, he loves competitive games, regardless of the level of play. Scott has participated in several intramural matches and enjoyed them and the lunches afterwards.



Proudest moment: Summiting Mt Kilimanjaro with son Michael in 2020. See photo at left.

Scott's remaining bucket list item: grandkids.

Scott's Dad started a Christian ministry in the Philippines in 1993. Ann Marie has been part of it ever since. When his Dad passed in 2011, Scott took over the responsibility of running it. He's



over there right now for 2.5 weeks, with his brother Rahn.

One of the feeding programs for the Mangyon children in Victoria, Oriental Mindora, Phillipines. Rahn and Scott can be seen in the back row. In Scott's words, "These are indigenous mountain people who live in the hitherlands and are very poor. They live in poorly constructed, thatched houses. We also preach the Gospel to them."

Rahn and Scott are in the photo to the right. (One more pic later.)



HIPPITY HOP INTO SAVINGS

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

CHECK OUT THESE PICKLERS' WINNING WAYS



Sure Shot PB Tournament - Jonny Storm & Ricky Landais
5.0 Mens Doubles – Gold ... AND Jonny with 3 year old
Coach Emma displaying his 4.5-5.0 Singles Gold medal

Center Court weekly King-Queen
Tournament – Vera Chan & Daniel
Koste – 3.75-4.25 – King & Queen



Texas Senior Games – Sue Cole &
David Persilver – Mixed 4.0 75-79
Gold

Same tournament – Sue & Winnie
Montgomery – Ladies
Doubles



HIS AND HERS OLDEST PICKLERS TOURNAMENTS



Oldest MEN Picklers L to R Ron, Clay, Geoff, Gary, Bob, Don, Jeff, Bill, Howard, Marv, Tom, Bear



Oldest LADY Picklers Front – Pat, Connie, Patti, Cindy Back – Karen, Cathy, Mary Ann, Charlotte, Janet, Carol, Michelle, Natasha



Bob 2nd, Marv 1st, Bill 3rd



Patti 2nd, Cindy 1st, Carol 3rd



Clockwise from Clay in front – Clay, Patti, Connie, Cindy, Ron, Howard, Bill, Don, Geoff, Bob, Marv, Jeff, Carol, Kare, Bear enjoyed great lunch and great conversations at Kelsey Road House

HAMILTON MENTORING – AN OPTIMISTIC SCHEDULE

Hopefully, we can still enjoy Thursday and Saturday walk-on mentoring sessions. I'm a bit nervous about this. The club keeps growing, and there are, believe it or not, a few picklers who are not in the Palatine Pickleball Club. Hope these non-Mentorees don't want to play at Hamilton Thursday or Saturday from 3:00 to 5:00. We've enjoyed these extra mentoring times for a few years now. Last summer there were times we started with two courts. Fortunately, our sheer numbers caused others playing to be polite and give us their court. It wasn't uncommon for us to be mentoring on all six courts, after a while.

Here's my optimistic schedule: Let's start Thursday, walk-on (vs Wednesday mornings which are by invitation only) sessions on April 18th. Just bring your paddle (I have loaners, if you don't have one.) We'll have one Mentor on each court. If courts are too crowded, we'll migrate to Locust a couple blocks behind Mariano's. If you're interested in participating, better Google where Locust is. It's pretty easy. Only three courts (one a tennis court with pb lines), but it's almost always available. We all know Palatine could definitely use more outdoor courts.

Then, for only those who work, babysit, golf, play bridge, etc. so can't attend EITHER Wednesday or Thursday sessions, we have walk-on sessions on Saturdays from 3:00 to 5:00 at Hamilton. Same concern. Locust may be a last minute, migration decision.



A CLUB WITHIN A CLUB

This is the **11:00 O'Clock Club** ... These Palatine Picklers want to enjoy games with only themselves. They arrive at Flacon about 11:00. By that time the throngs of Picklers earlier have thinned. They can have a court until it's quitting time. Pretty clever idea. They are, from left to right, Sandy Clark, Sue Poder, Marion Bajek, and Mary Anne Neer.

During COVID they were featured in a newsletter as carefully adventurous ladies.



FOR THIS MONTH ONLY, JONNY IS OFF SO BEAR IS DOING THE ACTION SHOTS AGAIN



Jill



Janet



Don



Jen



Karyn



Randy



Natsha



Mary



Steve



Tom



Ray



JoAnn

WE NEED TO REVIEW PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPATING IN MENTORING OR INTRAMURALS

Let's start with Wednesday mentoring.

- 1) See which dates work for you.
- 2) Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with those dates so I can put you on that week's Expect To Be Available (ETBA) list. If you HAVE to have either early or late session. Let me know.
- 3) Put on your calendar "Maybe mentoring." That will remind you to email me to remove you from an ETBA list, when a conflict arises.
- 4) If a conflict arises, you must email me before Noon on the Sunday before the Wednesday in question. Any later, barring an emergency will earn you a "strike."
- 5) Kathy Ford (or I when she's not available) will email an invitation to 24 students on Monday afternoon. You should accept it right away, but you have until 10:00 a.m. Monday to accept it, before you earn a strike and are replaced.
- 6) You do NOT have to email me Monday evening or sometime Tuesday asking if you should come to mentoring Wednesday, since you didn't get an invitation. The answer will always be NO.
- 7) Plan to arrive at the courts 15 minutes before your session is to begin. Bring water and your paddle. If you do not have paddle, no worries. I have loaners.
- 8) Strikes are earned by (a) not accepting an invitation, (b) not accepting it by 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, (c) being a no-show, (d) contacting Kathy about ANYTHING other than accepting her invitation. We won't forgive your first strike, but we will overlook it. If you should earn a 2nd strike, you are out of mentoring for the duration of the outdoor season.
- 9) If you do not receive an invitation by 6:00 p.m. Monday, you are free to make other plans. If you're asked to fill a striker's spot after 6:00 p.m., you won't earn one yourself for turning down the invitation. Of course, prior to 6:00, you're expected to still be available.

For intramural competitions, It much the same.

- 1) The only difference relates to the days. Intramural matches are every other Tuesday morning in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. So email me the dates for which you want to be put on an ETBA list. Mark your calendar with "Maybe Canlan" or something to remind you to email me at aokarry@yahoo.com, if a conflict aises.
- 2) To be removed from an ETBA list without a strike, I need to receive your email asking to be removed by Noon on Saturday.
- 3) I send invitations on Sunday afternoons to 16 Picklers who are on that week's ETBA list. You have until 10:00 a.m. Monday to accept. After that you get a strike and replaced.

- 4) If you do not receive an invitation by 6:00 p.m. Sunday, you do NOT have to email me asking if you're invited. You are not.
- 5) Strikes are earned by (a) not accepting an invitation by 10:00 a.m. Monday, (b) asking to come off an ETBA list after Noon on Saturday, or (c) being a no-show. Again, a first strike won't impact your being invited again. However, a 2nd strike bans you six months.



Jesse



John



Jenny



Jerry

IT'S WALKER RECOGNITION TIME

SUPER STEPPERS (20K+ in a day)

27,997



Annette Grabowski

26,548



Dan Salbego

25,783



Ben Farb

24,661



Sheila O'Gara

24,129



Anna Salbego

WORTHY WALKERS (15K+ in a day)

19,750



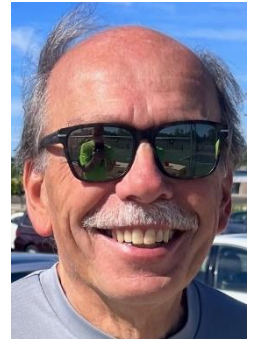
Dan Salbego

19,720



Bear Shatwell

19,511



Ben Farb

17,473



Lois Farb

17,033



Sheila O’Gara

15,646



Anna Salbego

15,350



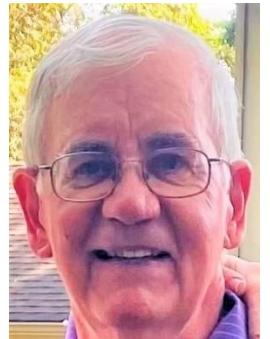
Denise Hopkins

15,312



Bobbie Campbell

15,229



Bob McGowan

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

You may not 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. You too can be featured in this walker-honoring section!

IF I DO NOT REPLY TO AN EMAIL, IT’S BECAUSE I DIDN’T GET IT.

It may be only an emoji, but I do respond to each. If you don’t get a reply, resend your email.

MARCH NEWBIES



BOB



CHER



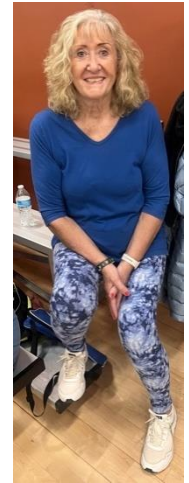
DEBORAH



DIANE



FRED



GRACE



HARRY



JACK



JAMES



JOANNA



JULIE



KRUSTYNA



LINDA



LUKE



MARY



MUKESH



RANDY



SUE



SUSAN

NEED A LOT MORE INTRAMURALISTS

Come on, Picklers. We have almost two tons (4,000) of Picklers in the club, and HALF of them qualify for intramurals. One quarter are a bit too good (better than 3.5) and one quarter are not yet at 3.0. The other 50% fall into our desired intermediate (3.0-3.5) range. Yet, there are fewer than 50 on the roster. Intramural matches are every other week year-round. I select 16 (8 men and 8 ladies) to participate. I arrange them by age. The younger half are the Whippersnappers, while the older half comprise the Wise Ones. No two rosters are the same. You'll partner with each of your teammates for one game. Seven games and then we go to lunch, if your schedule allows. There is no, "I'm not good enough." I'll tell you if that is true and won't roster you. Same if I know you're a bit above our target skill level.

I'm more than happy to try you. If you're too good or now quite good enough to fit our desired range, I'll just not invite you back. No big deal. Many many have participated just once, had a good time and not seen again. It's all for fun, and no matter how good or bad you play, it IS fun for all. And lunch is fun too. SO email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com, if you'd like to give it a try.

We play every other Tuesday morning in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. They charge a daily fee of \$10 you pay on your way in. Get there by 8:45 to pay and warm up. We start at 9:00. Come on, Picklers. Give me the dates you think you'd be available ... for the next couple months that would be 4/2, 4/16, 4/30, 5/14, 5/28, 6/11, 6/25. Give it a try. You WILL love the experience and enjoy being part of a team, particularly if you come to lunch too. Again, email me with the dates you THINK you'll be available. Then put "Maybe Intramurals" or something on your calendar for each date you give me. Then, if a conflict arises, you'll be reminded to email me to take you off that Expect To Be Available (ETBA) list. Please email me before Noon on Saturday. That's when I put the rosters together.

I WILL send invitations on Sunday afternoons. You'll have until 10:00 a.m. Monday to accept. After that you'll be replaced and earn a dreaded "strike." Again, two strikes and you are out for six months.

ONE FINAL PIC FROM SCOTT PFEIFER



As Scott related, "Feeding body, mind, and soul."



AN ORIGINAL PICKLEBALL POEM by Jeff Degner

It seems we have at least three Pickler poets ... Jeff Degner here, Pat Morgan, and myself. This is Jeff's most recent contribution to your reading pleasure. It will help if you imagine Loren Greene's voice reciting these lines.



PINGO

He lay face down in the no-volley land,
 A pickleball paddle still clutched in his hand.
 My overhead smash had hammered his head,
 Just for a moment, I thought he was dead.
 But he popped back up and regained his feet...

Perhaps to postpone the only defeat,

Of Pingo

His third-shot drops were awesome indeed,
 While my line-hitting bangers, zipped with speed.

His dinks and lobs varied with spinners,
 My powerful backhands: constant winners.

He had toured the east while I went west,

But we both awaited the final test,
 Could I possibly lose, and join the rest?

Or be the only one to get the best...

Of Pingo

And sure enough, the word came 'round,
 That he was waiting in a tournament town.

To play against me in a sanctioned match,

A courtside battle, we couldn't scratch.

The contest was timed, the refs were many,

First serve assigned by the flip of a penny.

And as our practice balls were bouncing,

The fans all hoped to see a trouncing,

Of Pingo

It's said from Nome to Abilene,

It was the longest match ever seen.



This was such a successful event, I'm leaning toward making it a twice a year one. For the record, The Pickle Haus was SO prepared for us. They had our restaurant table reserved and additional staff to wait on us. And the food was, as always, great. And individual checks.





Carol



Angie



Bill



Cher



Geoff



Dan



Gerd



Debbie



Jenna



John



Jim



John



Larry



Mary



Mediha



Scott



Natalie



Linda



Pat



Scott



Sue



Wendy



Tom



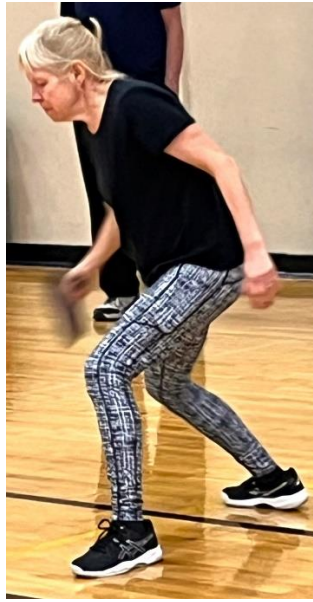
Tina



Tommy



Scott



Stephanie



Sue



Pam



Chris



Anu



Adam



Chris



Mina



Karen



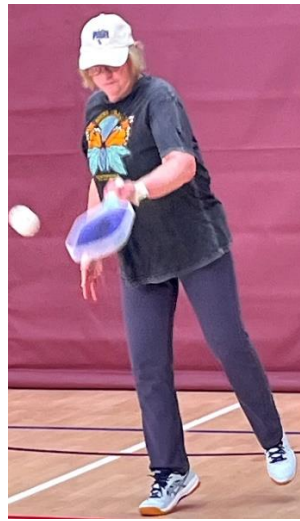
John



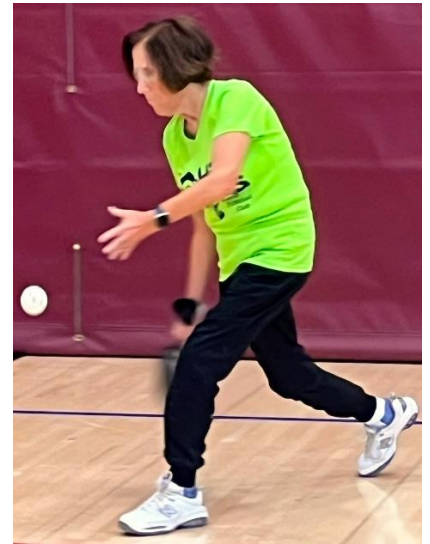
Bill



Julie



Diane



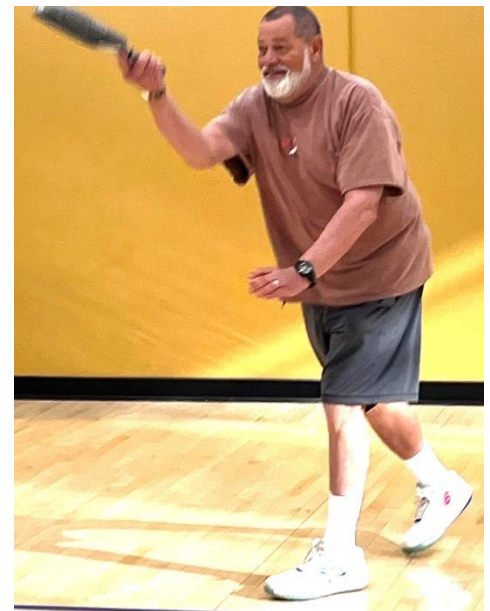
Anne



Cindy



Steve



Howard



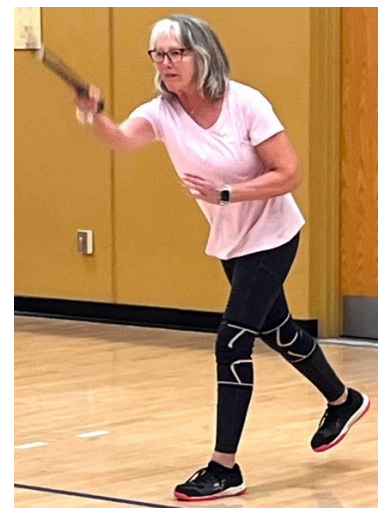
Jim



Bruce



Mukesh



Cindy



Bo



Chris



Clay



Cathy

HAVE A HAPPY APRIL, PICKLERS



It's been another great month. We enjoyed our annual Bionic Bodies tournament, had both our oldest men and oldest ladies compete, and had 28 compete at Pickle Haus. It's now time to sign up for outdoor mentoring and, of course, the next couple months of intramurals for which half our club should be registering. Our indoor mentoring will be coming to an end for the season. We've accomplished SO much with all participants getting half an hour with each of six Mentors. And it's been free, apart from Canlan's \$10 daily fee. We REALLY have to be proud of ourselves for this program. I seriously doubt there's a training program anywhere in the country that can compare to our free mentoring.

Now, I hope you widows and widowers will sign up for our morning play and, more important, lunch on April 18th. We really want to communicate with other Picklers who "get it." Widowhood is a unique club no one wants to join, but we can share so much.

Bear Shatwell
PicklersPrez
aokbarry@yahoo.com