



PalatinePicklers.com

MAY, 2024 NEWSLETTER

MENTORING HAS MOVED OUTDOORS

Except for our May 7th Mentoree Tournament, Mentorees are now honing their skills outdoors. Our most popular sessions are Wednesday mornings at Locust on Morris. There are two, ninety minute classes – 9:00 to 10:30 and 10:30 to Noon. These are BY INVITATION ONLY. If you'd like to participate in this free program, email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com with the dates you believe you could attend. If you absolutely HAVE TO have either the early or late session, tell me that too. Then just check your email on the Monday afternoons before those dates, to see if you're among the 24 invited that week.

It's a great idea to enter on your calendar "maybe mentoring" on each date you give me. Then, if a conflict arises, you'll be reminded to email me to take you off that ETBA (Expect To Be Available) list. To avoid a dreaded "strike," this must be done before Noon on the Saturday before that Wednesday's mentoring sessions. That is when I send the availability spreadsheet to our Mentoree Scheduler Kathy.

During your free morning mentoring, you will spend half an hour with each of three Mentors. Just bring your paddle and water. If you do not yet have a paddle, no worries. I have plenty of loaners.

Just to review yet again, strikes are earned four ways: (1) not accepting your invitation by 10:00 a.m. Monday, (2) not responding to your invitation at all. (3) being a no-show, barring a last minute emergency. (4) contacting Kathy with ANYTHING other than an acceptance of her invitation. All of these are viewed as very inconsiderate of our volunteered time. If you earn a strike, we'll let you know. Should you earn a 2nd strike, you will be banned from mentoring sessions for the next six months.

WALK-ON MENTORING ... Already started are our "just show up" sessions at Hamilton on Thursday and Saturday from 3:00 to 5:00. Thursdays are for any member of the Palatine Pickleball Club. If someone learns of these sessions but is not a member, have him/her go to PalatinePicklers.com and join. We may have a dozen show up, or we may have 30. We'll hope to group you by experience and ability and have Mentors rotate courts every half hour. SATURDAY SESSIONS ARE FOR ONLY THOSE PICKLERS WHO CANNOT ATTEND EITHER WEDNESDAY OR THURSDAY SESSIONS, due to work, babysitting, golf, classes, etc. Again bring only a paddle and water, and try to get there a few minutes early to warm up.



GIMME MORE OF YOUR INTRAMURAL AVAILABILITY

Our intramural program is second only to mentoring for being the most popular and successful program in our nine-year history. This every other Tuesday morning competition takes place in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. It has two teams of four men and four ladies each of whom will partner with each teammate for one game. Rosters vary each week, as I can field only 16 Picklers for these matches. Half of our membership is eligible to compete. We're looking for intermediate level Picklers. If you're into ratings, that's 3.0 to 3.5, and that includes half of us. If you're a little above or below that range, I'll still give you a chance or two to enjoy these fun competitions. Once I've selected the 16 Picklers for a match, based mostly on how frequently and how recently they'd participated, I arrange them by date of birth. The youngest four men and four ladies comprise the Whippersnapper team, while the older half makes up the Wise Ones team. A 65-year old may play for one team one match and the other the next.

We begin at 9:00 a.m. Get there by 8:45 to pay Canlan's \$10 daily fee and warm up. We finish just in time to head to Kelsey Road House a mile away for lunch and off-court bonding.

This is a year-round program. I just ask for your availability for a few months at a time, to avoid a lot of "Can't make it after all" emails. As with mentoring you'll earn strikes for not being available to play, if you've had me put you on an ETBA list and haven't had me take you off it before Noon Saturday before a match. (Read about strikes on page one.) Two strikes also earns a six-month ban. The only difference is I do the scheduling, not Kathy. And you can always email me anything. So check your calendars and ask me to put you on the Expect To Be Available lists for whichever dates seem to work for you. They are:

May 14 May 28 June 11 June 25 July 9 July 23 Aug 6 Aug 20 I'm at
aokbarry@yahoo.com. Just give me your dates AND your MMDDYY date of birth so I don't have to look it up. Thanks. I look forward to



ALWAYS FUN WHEN PALATINE PICKLERS RUN INTO EACH OTHER IN OTHER STATES

Brian Locascio and Lisa Von Bush recently ran into each other on the courts at The Villages in Florida.

If this happens to you, please have a pic taken and send it to me.

IT'S ADVERTISEMENT TRIVIA TIME

We had our movie quotes trivia contest a couple months ago. Now I have a whole lot of hours in the air getting home from Hawaii so I'll see how many commercials from several decades I can recall. Sending me the most correct answers will win you a free Palatine Picklers shirt of your choosing. This is on the honor system. I want to test your recollection, not your Google skills. In the event of a tie, the first one received wins the shirt, but top performers will get your photos in the next newsletter.

- 01) America runs on _____
- 02) Where the rubber meets the road
- 03) When you care enough to send the very best
- 04) We have the meat
- 05) They're magically delicious
- 06) You deserve a break toda
- 07) And I helped
- 08) The finest apples in Appleland
- 09) I'd like to teach the world to sing
- 10) Sometimes you feel like a nut
- 11) You only pay for what you need (I REALLY hate that bad English)
- 12) When it rains it pours
- 13) Can't stop eating 'em
- 14) The world may never know
- 15) A little dab will do ya
- 16) Breakfast of Champions
- 17) We'll leave the light on for you
- 18) The beer that made Milwaukee famous
- 19) You'll wonder where the yellow went
- 20) The friendly skies
- 21) See the USA
- 22) What a chunk of chocolate
- 23) Snap Crackle and Pop
- 24) _____ this season will show you the reason
- 25) The fun ships
- 26) Have it your way
- 27) _____ on milk is like sterling on silver
- 28) Contented cows
- 29) Builds strong bodies 12 ways
- 30) Brusha brusha brusha
- 31) The uncola (7-Up)
- 32) You're soaking in it

- 33) As you travel ask us
- 34) You can trust your car to the man who wears the star
- 35) Give it to Mikey. He'll eat anything
- 36) Hudson 32700
- 37) If you can't find it at _____, it's probably not worth drinking
- 38) Cross your heart with your living bra
- 39) Where's the beef
- 40) Mmmm mmmm good
- 41) We try harder
- 42) The quicker picker upper
- 43) Stop squeezing the _____
- 44) Shot from guns
- 45) Choo Choo Charlie
- 46) Tut tut nothin' but
- 47) T-Ball Jotter
- 48) Let _____ put you in the driver's seat
- 49) I'd walk a mile for a _____
- 50) The ultimate driving machine (BMW)

REMEMBER OUR BIONIC BODIES TOURNAMENT LAST MONTH? I HAD AN OOPS



Think this was the first time I've failed to share the top three finishers in any club tournament. Sorry about that. So I'm sharing the collection of Bionic Bodies pic again, along with our top three finishers ... Doris Lovern, 2nd, Kurt Conrath, 1st, and Bill Parry, 3rd. Congrats, Picklers.

HEY, SINGLE PICKLERS ... WE'VE GOT YOUR TOURNAMENT

If you are never married, divorced, widowed and not remarried, you are invited to play in our first ever Singles Tournament. It will be, of course, at Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington on Thursday morning, May 30th. Whether 8, 12, 16, or even 24 of you, I'll structure a tournament for you ... and, of course, you'll want to do lunch afterward. Just let me know you'd like to participate. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. Also, PLEASE let me know if you're available for lunch about 11:45. Thanks.

RECRUIT PARTNER FOR THE LONG & SHORT TOURNAMENT

Yes, there was significant interest. So this 8" difference in height tournament will take place Thursday, May 16th at 9:00 in the Canlan Sportsplex in Lake Barrington. Just email me your pairing and pay Canlan's \$10 daily fee at their lobby desk. This is a first come, first served event so let me know a.s.a.p. if you'd like to participate. I'm at aokbarry@yahoo.com. You do not need to be a real life pair. Just find a partner who doesn't look you eye to eye.

WIDOWS WON ON AND OFF THE COURTS

We had our second tournament/lunch/sharing session last month. We had quite a range of widowhood, from three weeks to 19 years, but we had so much in common. It was suggested that we meet as a group more than once a year. Look for another widowriffic tournament day in the fall.



Front: Judy, Doris, & Julie 2nd row: Linda & Annette
Back row: Carole, Bear, & Tommy



Tommy Mullen 2nd, Doris Lovern 1st,
Bear Shatwell 3rd

MEET PICKLER NATALIE SILVERMAN



We've all heard good things come in small packages. That's certainly true in the case of Natalie Silverman who, with er permission, I call our Tiny Person. Those of us who have come to know her at all seem to use the same word to describe Natalie. She's adorable. She's upbeat. She's encouraging. She's a sponge for pickleball knowledge. She's motivated to be the best she can be. She makes the Energizer Bunny seem lazy. She has a really cute voice. And you won't have to know her long to find that she's a good hugger.

Natalie was born and raised in Lincolnwood for her first two decades. She has one brother and one sister, but none of them communicate with each other. Her parents died of cancer at 59. Her Uncles and Aunts died in their 40, and her grandparents passed early also. She's been her own support group for a long long time. She says she took the scenic route to her BA in Psychology from Northeastern Illinois University. That involved cups of coffee at Oakton, Illinois State University, University of Nevada Las Vegas, and finally NEIU.

She's lived in Lincolnwood, Las Vegas, Arlington Heights, and now Palatine. Natalie describes herself as a "numbers girl." Her work history would bear that out. She spent 9 years as a blackjack dealer, working at the Golden Gate, Frontier, and Treasure Island. Then she returned to Illinois and went into finance. She became the Operations Manager for a Credit Union for the next 9 years. Finding she wasn't wild about being responsible for anyone but herself, she took a job as an Operations Accountant at Central States where she's spent the past 7 years in their Finance Department. Photo at right is at a casino 1997.



Natalie has managed to remain single for almost five decades. Though that remains a mystery to me, she is totally comfortable being on her own and self-sufficient. (She'll have a 50th Bday celebratory pickleball afternoon at Hamilton on Sunday 5/26 at 1:00. Please come and meet this awesome Tiny Person.)

Photo at left is of a bunch of "fun " ladies who get together for dinners. She happens to be a foodie. She plans most days around what she plans to eat. She

loves trying new restaurants. Still, BBQ (brisket & ribs), pizza, and Asian are some of her favorites.

As a youth, Natalie enjoyed softball. She totally loved when the opposing team would judge a book by its cover and play “in,” when she was up to bat. Then she’d hit it over their heads.

This Tiny Person thinks she’s the biggest Cubs fan around. Her family had season tickets from 1992 to 2010 so she attended many games. Now she just makes sure to get to at least five games each season. If you see her on a pickleball court with an earpiece, she’s probably listening to a Cubs game. Natalie also likes walking and roller skating. She really misses the Orbit Roller Rink.



At right she’s at spring training with Maryanne with whom she worked at a casino in the past.



As for pickleball, she received a paddle for her birthday last year. It took a few months for her to gather the nerve to try ... but the Palatine Picklers were super kind and welcoming. She says “I like Mr. Bear the most – He is super kind and supportive and always has a smile on his face.”

Her biggest bucket list entry is Costa Rica which she hopes to check off soon.

Natalie loves to travel, sometimes with friends and sometimes alone. She returns to Las Vegas few times a year, and she is an annual attendee at Cubs spring training games in Arizona. She hits Florida 4-5 times a year too. This year she’s heading to Mexico in November for some fun in the sun.



At right you see her in front of the new Las Vegas Sphere in December.

MAY YOU ENJOY YOUR 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

ALL PALATNE MEDALISTS ARE COOL, BUT ONE IS AWESOME



Chuck Feinstein & Steve Cole
US Open – Pro 60-64 – Gold



Chuck & Tammy Mitchell
US Open – 5.0 60+ - Gold



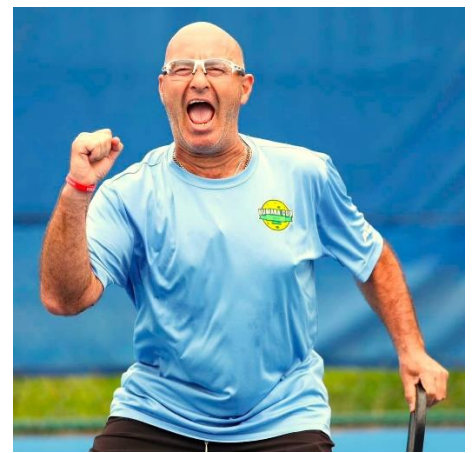
Chuck & Steve Cole
US Open – 5.0 60-69 – Gold



Maira Rousch & Chuck – AAP Delay Beach
Delray Beach AAP- Sr Pro MIXED – Gold



Chuck & Todd Headley -
AAP Sr Pro Mens – Bronze



What winning everything feels like



Bill F & Janeen Noto – Picklbar
Tourney - 4.0 Mixed - Bronze



Jonny Storm & Daniel Rotolo –
Naperville - 4.5 Kings of Court



Carol Hawes & Karen Hoppel -
Life Time – 3.0-3.5 – Bronw

IF YOU HEAR, “I JOINED BUT HAVEN’T HEARD BACK”

We lost 24-30 Newbies recently. For who knows what reason our website just stopped sending me the new member applications after March 9th. They are lost forever. Our Webmaster John changed things for the applications to go to him so he could forward them to me. That has worked since the 2nd week in April. However, there are at least a couple dozen who thought they’d joined, but we’re unaware of them. If you encounter one of these, please ask them to go back to PalatinePicklers.com and join again. It seems it will work this time! Thanks.

IT’S WALKER RECOGNITION TIME

SUPER STEPPERS (20k+ steps in a day)

25,710



Dan Salbego

25,000



Jeff Colish

21,747



Natalie Silverman

WORTHY WALKERS (15K+ steps in a day)

18,545



Dan Salbego

18,271



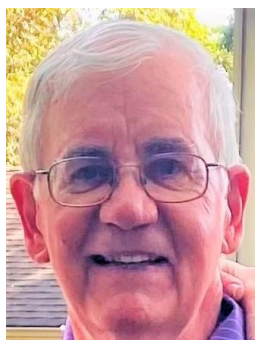
Bear Shatwell

17,121



Mary Werling

17,093



Bob McGowan

15,629



Kathy Shatwell

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 of our next newsletter.

APRIL NEWBIES



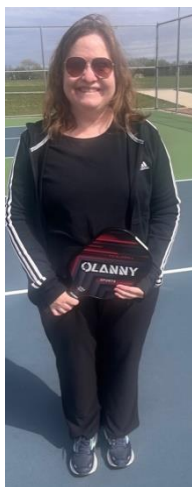
ANDREA



ANDRII



CHRIS



CHRISTINE



JANET



JEFF



JOE



KATHY



KAYLA



LORETTA



LUCY



MARK



RENI

SYCAMORE NOT QUITE READY

Sycamore Park has been out of service since August. A month ago the Park District said they still plan to reconstruct two pickleball courts and one multi-use tennis court, rather than four pickleball courts. When it's ready for play, you'll read about it in a future newsletter



FUN NIGHT AT THE "CLAYATHON"

Clay announced on Facebook about a fun-filled evening at Schwaben Athletic Club in Buffalo Grove at which he'd be the emcee and the singer. Nine Picklers jumped on the chance to see our friend do his thing. We weren't disappointed. Clay was terrific, and we danced the night away, as well as enjoying some great food.



Our Picklers table consisted of, from left, Debbie, Jaime, Kathy, Bear, John, Ann, Melanie, Joe, and Carol. If this becomes an annual event, I hope we'd have three or four Picklers tables next time. It's a bargain and a good time. It's always fun to socialize with those we know primarily on the courts.

MENTOREE TOURNEY NEEDS SUBS & SCOREKEEPER/S

After a widely popular indoor mentoring season, the final event is always the Mentoree Tournament. Anyone who participated in at least two sessions over the fall and winter is eligible. 24 will compete. There will actually be two tournaments of 12 Mentorees each. As I write this we have two Alternates. A couple more would be appreciated, as there are usually a few whose schedules have changed since they said they wanted to participate in this Tuesday, May 7th morning event at Canlan.

Also, we'd love to have two volunteers to serve as Scorekeepers, updating the scoreboards.

If interested in being on the waiting list to play or are willing to donate a morning to keeping a scoreboard accurate, just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. Thank you.

LAST INDOOR PICKLEBALL DATES

OK, indoor enthusiasts, the end is near. Falcon's last day for open pickleball is, I'm told by the PPD, Friday, May 24th. Birchwood's last open play day is Thursday, May 23rd. Community Center will have Monday evenings through July. They haven't responded regarding Thursday mornings, but it seems possible those will end at the end of May also. Harper's schedule, we think, should remain the same for early summer.

SEEMS A REMINDER IS IN ORDER

I've said it and published it often, but not everyone gets it. Seems everyone knows me and assumes I'll remember everything they tell me. NO! So here it is again ... If it isn't in an email, it never happened. "I told you Thursday I wouldn't be available ..." This doesn't do it. A LOT of Picklers tell me things. I enjoy that, but I virtually always tell them to email it to me. I DO react to each email in chronological order. I can add or delete you from Expect To Be Available lists or whatever then. If you tell me something, I may say, "Wait. Let me email myself." If you waited until I did that, then it's done. This SO applies to your giving me money for shirts or whatever. Don't give me money and walk away, unless you see me email myself. Thanks.

LAST MINUTE FILLER

I forgot I left a void to fill later so I could start action shots on a fresh page. So, let's see ...

Most important to repeat are **INTRAMURALS**. These competitions with different rosters each match are every other Tuesday morning year round. They are for intermediate level Picklers. That's HALF of our membership. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com if you'd like to give it a try. All for fun ... and lunch afterward, if your schedule allows. Even if you're too skilled or not quite ready, you'll have fun. I'll just explain why it was a one and done fun day. No biggie.

MENTORING

Wednesdays are by invitation. Email me those mornings (every week) you expect to be available. Just remember to email me again, if you have a conflict arise. You'll be invited on Monday afternoons, if you're selected for that week.

PICKLERS AT PLAY





Mediha



Mike



Marcia



Lary



Marianne



Mark



Kevin



Laura



John



Jesse

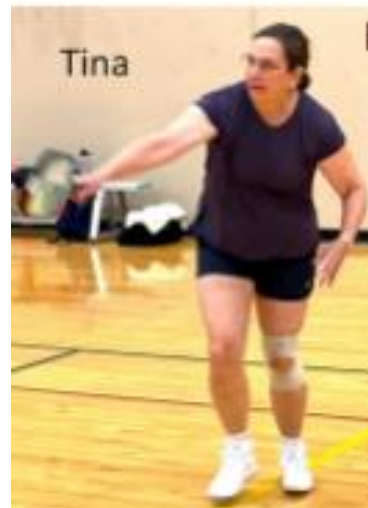


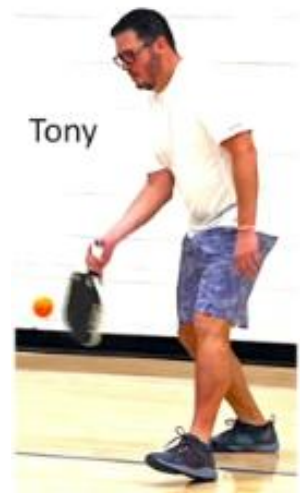
Henry



Janet











THAT'S IT

This one was more work than normal, for a few reasons. A nine-day vacation, being cyberstupid and having to rework Jonny's action shots one at a time, glitches with mentoring, being a bit sick, and having more research on medalists and indoor playing time than expected added to my workload. So glad I am finishing on the 30th.

So ... Not much time so, if you can find a partner 8" different in height, let me know you want to compete on Thursday, 5/16. If you're unattached, let me know you want to play in the 5/30 singles tournament. If you want mentoring, email me the Wednesday mornings you'll be available. Yes, you can just walk onto Hamilton Thursday or Saturday 3-5. Buy your shirts on the website (computer, phone Please avoid "strikes." Use your discounts. Try one or more of my expensive demo paddles. Have fun. That's it. Pickle on. BTW it was Joanie who decorated me as Surfer Dude at Community.