



PalatinePicklers.com

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APRIL, 2026 NEWSLETTER

STILL TIME FOR INDOOR MENTORING

There is still time for newer players, and those intermediate Picklers wanting to hone their skills to participate in the Canlan Sportsplex mentoring sessions. We have two remaining sessions. Tuesday 4/7 and Tuesday 4/21. Sessions start at 9:00 and end at Noon. These are free from us, though Canlan charges a \$10 daily fee. Over the course of those three hours, you will share a court with Picklers of similar experience and ability and receive coaching from each of six Mentors. Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to be put on one or both of those two Expect To Be Available lists. Then check your email over the weekend. For an invitation.

REGISTER FOR WEDNESDAY MENTORING AT SYCAMORE

For those who have not participated, our primary outdoor mentoring consists of two, 90-minute sessions each Wednesday at Sycamore Park on Carpenter at Clark. You must email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com to be put on an Expect To Be Available (ETBA) list for any weeks you'd be interested in participating. We invite 12 students for the 9:00 to 10:30 session and 12 for the 10:30 to Noon session. You'll spend all 90 minutes sharing a court with three I believe to be of similar experience and ability. You'll receive coaching from each of the day's three Mentors.

These sessions will be every Wednesday through the end of October. So give me the dates that will work for you, starting with May 6th. Be sure to have me take you off any ETBA list when a conflict arises.

THIS FRIDAY IS OUR ANNUAL PHOTO DAY

Be sure to wear a Palatine Picklers shirt to Falcon this Friday 4/3. At 10:00 I'll blow a whistle. Remember your score and who's serving and report to the middle of the curtain on lobby side.

WEARING OF THE GREEN TOURNAMENT

Twelve Picklers got a jump on St. Patrick's Day and wore green while playing one game partnering with each of their 11 competitors. Everyone had fun and the top three players had the most success.



Stephanie, Rose, Kathy, Eileen, Karen, Marti, Natalie, Bryan, Judy, Leslie, Dale, Bob



Karen

Eileen

Bob

Stephanie

Dale



Judy

Kathy

Natalie

Leslie

Bryan



Rose



Marti



Leslie 2nd, Stephanie 1st, Bob 3rd

UNTALL LADIES – STILL ROOM FOR YOU

This popular, annual tournament is just a few days away on Thursday, April 9th. There are still roster spots available so, if you do not tower above 5'2", email Bob to, hopefully, get into this tournament. He's at BobMcGowan1946@gmail.com.

HEY – ANY PICKLER GUYS 6' TALL ?

Thursday, April 30th is the date of our 3rd Tree Toppers Tournament for our Picklers who are at least 6' tall. It will start at 9:00 a.m. in the Lake Barrington Canlan Sportsplex. It's a round robin so you'll partner with each of your fellow competitor for one game. No skill requirement, just that 72" requirement. To register email Fun Tournament Manager Bob at BobMcGowan1946@gmail.com. We don't charge a fee for running tournaments, but you will pay Canlan's \$10 daily fee at the lobby desk when you arrive.

As with all Canlan events, for those whose schedule allows, lunch at Kelsey Road House follows at noon.

PERFECT PICKLR MORNING FOR 32 PICKLERS

Last fall we had 32 Palatine Picklers head to the Mt Prospect Picklr for an 8-game tournament. Everyone partnered with a different peer each game. Everyone had the fun of playing on a number of courts. It was such a success that I said we'd repeat this, probably, three times a year. We did it again on Thursday, March 19th. Again, it was a smashing and dinking success.



Before heading to their starting courts, all 32 players and I gathered to have our group photo taken. Then everyone headed to their assigned court, with clipboard, scoresheet, and pencil in hand. Here's what they looked like over the next two hours.



Jim



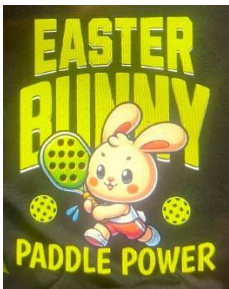
Mary



Tommy



Annette





Bill



Angie



Bill



Joe



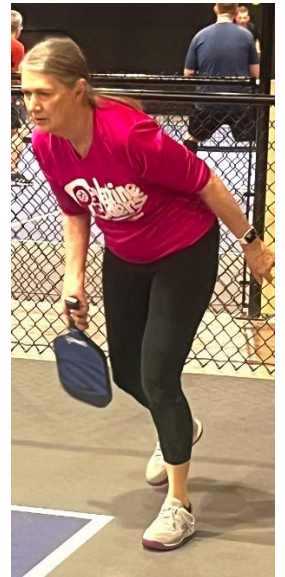
Khin



Karen



Kent



Joanie



John



Scott



Marti



Michael



Steve



Marti



Jim



Cindy



Steve



Stephanie



Janet



Chrissie



Bruce



Bob

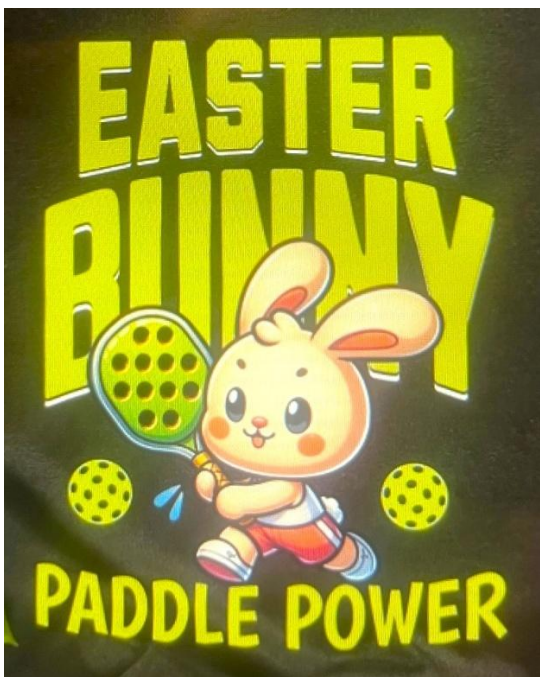


Bill 2nd, Oliver 1st, Stephanie 3rd

TOP TEN PICKLERS AT PICKLR: 1) Oliver Mak 120, 2) Bill Shehadeh 101, 3) Stephanie Douglas 94, 4) Scott Pfeiffer 92, 5) John Schehl 91, 6) Larry Perlmann 88, 7) Pauline Kuebler 83, 8-9) Deborah Hathaway & Steve Grabowski 80, 10 tie) Mary Karson & Steve Yesinick 74. Congratulations to each of ur Top Ten.

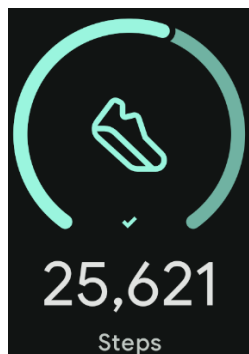


Enjoyed lunch at Jameson's Charhouse. Tommy, Kent, Khin, Jim, Steve, Annette, Joe, Karen, Mary Jo, Bear, & Bob.



CONGRATS TO THIS MONTH'S BEST WALKERS

SUPER STEPPERS (20k+steps In a day)



Natalie Silverman

24,664 steps



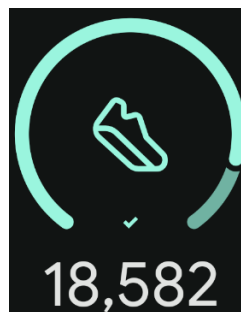
John Havlir

WORTHY WALKER 15K+ steps in a day

23,039 steps



Stephamie Douglas



Natalie Silverman

IN CASE YOU'VE BEEN LIVING IN A CAVE ... For years we've been telling you that we'd like you to join this elite group. Remember, if you wear your phone, it's likely recording your steps. Just click on the little red heart. Many former regulars have vanished. (Yeah, that includes me, but I'm, apparently, months away from walking more than 2,000 in a day – I truly LONG to be back on here.) Come on ... send me (aokbarry@yahoo.com) your daily steps in excess of 15,000. Oh, AND include a head shot. (Look above to see why.) Let's go walking.

CALLING INDOOR MENTOREES ... I'LL TAKE THE FIRST 24

We're ending another indoor season. All who participated are eligible to participate in the Tuesday, May 5th 9:00-12:00 Mentoree Tournament in Canlan. You will partner with each of your 11 division partners for one game. There is no "I'm not good enough." It's a round robin so you cannot hurt anyone's chances. Email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com. You'll have fun. Just

to make you feel more comfortable, this will be, I'm pretty sure, the 20th Mentoree tournament. 480 Mentorees have competed, and not one said it wasn't fun.



WANT A DISCOUNT ON PICKLEBALL PADDLES OR STUFF?

Great. Here's what to do. Go to PalatinePicklers.com, go to the library, and click on ANY newsletter, other than this one. You'll find all the discounts in there. I'm bored saying the same thing over and over for years and years. Happy shopping.

IN A VOLUNTEERING MOOD? I NEED A NEWBIES MANAGER

This isn't for everyone. I need a Pickler with a decent eye, understanding of how to edit (size, brightness, saturation, etc). I'll send you a file of the month's Newbies complete with the name of each. You do your editing thing and put them on a Word page and send it back to me. You can keep them in alpha order or get as creative as you'd like. It is kind of fun, but, I'll admit after more than a decade of doing this, it's getting old. How 'bout we show off your creative talents and willingness to help the club? Just email me at aokbarry@yahoo.com.



LET'S MEET A FEW NEWBIES

This month's and next month's collection of Newbies will seem a bit short of expectations. That's because I'm not at Hamilton, Falcon, Birchwood, or Community to sign up new members, and it's "killing" me. My new knee was good to play after 6 weeks, but my limping for a couple months before surgery prompted bursitis on my right hip area. NOT comfortable. I'm in PT and seeing Chiropractor, but progress is much slower than I'd want. So here's my version of what I hope one of you will be doing next month.



Gayle



Madeline



Theresa



Scott



Jeff



Karen



HEY, MIDDLE 50% OF MEMBERS – SIGN UP – THIS IS NUTS

We have almost 4,700 members in the Palatine Pickleball Club. That means that 2,350 are eligible to participate in the intermediate intramural competitions. So, tell me, why is it so hard to get a few dozen to sign up for this every other Tuesday, year-round competition? This has been our 2nd most popular event, behind mentoring. I's been going year-round for four years. Here's how it works. Email Chrissie at TonyandChrissie@earthlink.net. She's in charge of scheduling Intramuralists. She will roster 16 Picklers ... eight men and eight women. Based on date of birth, she'll roster the four youngest men and women as the Whippersnappers, and the elder eight men and women as the Wise Ones. You will play one game partnered with each of your teammates. Whichever team wins 25+ games of the 28 played wins the match. Over the 4-year competition, the teams are almost equal. NO ONE CARES how well you do. It's not the Olympics. It's for fun ... and kind of foreplay to lunch where you'll get to know each other off the courts. SO email Chrissie that you want to see how much fun this informal competition really is. In four years, I've had only two (of hundreds) say it wasn't for them. Yet the line is not around the block. Makes no sense. Playing 3 hours of competitive for you pickleball should be the most awesome alternative in the pickleball universe. What's the problem? Email Chrissie. You WILL be glad you did. Thanks.



HERE ARE A FEW PICKLERS PLAYING

We're shy of pics this month, for the same reason we're shy of Newbies. I'm sidelined so am not at courts to take pics or sign up Newbies. I was already in pickleball withdrawal 7 weeks ago when I got me new left knee. It's ready to return, but my bursitis is far from it. Sorry.



Diane



Peggy



Oliver



Theresa



Tammy



Nancy



Michael



Barb



Dale



Frank



Gayle



Jim



Bryan



Dorie



Dennis



Jacquie



Karen



Judy



Doug



Linda



Madeline



Karen



Pam



Rose

PICKLERS WHO HAD TOURNAMENT SUCCESS



Bill Haney & John Pihl – PebbleCreek Club Championships, Goodyear, AZ – 3.0 50+ - Bronze



Kent & Katie Kleiva – Lifetime Fitness Spring Classic, Lincolnshire – 3.0 – Bronze

Normally, I do not include league results in the Tournament Medalists. However, this is so not normal time. So we will honor Palatine Picklers who performed well at their Arlington Heights winter league tournament.



. Chrissie Looper, Oliver & Alice Mak – ARC
. Winter League Tournament – 1st

Nichole Greening & Tom Sparks -
ARC Winter League Tournament – 2nd

**VERY IMPORTANT REMINDER ---
THIS FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD IS PHOTO DAY**

About this time every year, we have everyone don their favorite Palatine Picklers shirt and head to Falcon. At 10:00 I'll blow my whistle. That means you should remember your score and who is your next server and head to the lobby side. If you're not in a club shirt, you won't be in the photo. However, I (and, hopefully others) will bring some spare shirts from their collections for Picklers who need to borrow one for ten minutes. If coming for only the photo, you don't have to pay.



2nd ANNUAL LONGEST LAST NAMES TOURNAMENT – 5/21

We had so much fun with this one that we're doing it again. If your last name has at least eight letters, email Bob at BobMcGowan1946@gmail.com. This will be Thursday, May 21^s and, as with all our tournaments, it's in the Lake Barrington Canlan Sportsplex, from 9:00 to Noon. You will partner with each of your competitors for one game. If your afternoon allows, you can join us for lunch a mile away, after we take a photo of the top three finishers.

WHAT'S UP WITH BEAR?

The last month has not been my best. I'll try to explain, rather than whine. Let's start with technology. A month or so ago I was hacked in such a way that hundreds (or thousands) of my contacts received a bogus invitation which couldn't be opened. No party. That hack left a few, annoyances on my laptop. I had Geek Squad work on them. Think they fixed those, but now I have 13 new, and more serious, problems. Once I give this newsletter to Greg to get out, I'll create a spreadsheet itemizing them and go back to Geek Squad (I'm a member so no additional cost). I cannot attach anything. That's major for me. I have to enlarge each screen. That's a pain. Recipients of emails go on one line forever, but I can't see them. Not all emails get sent, but I have to check SENT to learn that. I cannot search or add contacts. SO not cool. I've used WeTransfer to send folders (Newbies, Medalists, Walkers, etc.) to volunteers to make pages I copy and paste in the newsletter. No can do. Can't add emojis. Makes me write more. My "move to" a given folder doesn't work. I can't minimize most Word or Excel pages. Major pain. There's more, but you get the idea.

Now for me. On the great side, I got a new left knee February 5th. At my 6-week checkup, I was given the "good to go." I could return to pickleball. (Back pat – he was amazed at my recovery.) Problem was my right hip area was very unhappy (compensation for limping for months with knee problem). When I just wrote "very," that was an understatement. In the last 3-4 weeks, I don't believe I've had a waking minute with a discomfort level under 2. I wake up with 8-9. Norco brings it down to about 4. Mornings I bounce downstairs on my butt to get quickly to my Norco. I had 3 a day for the first several days. Now 1 a day followed by some ibuprofen later. I've had 12 cortisone shots over the last five decades. All have worked, until the one I got when I was given the "good to go" on my left knee. I'm in PT and seeing Chiropractor, but it's more social (welcome) than helpful. I wanted to go back to my usual cortisone Doc, but I have to wait 3 months since this last shot. I do have an appointment on 4/16 for a consultation. Maybe, just maybe, they'll do an MRI and find something that can be fixed. Another operation? Fine by me. As my Chiropractor keeps saying, "You can't live like this."

Here's the deal. I don't think about it, but, obviously, my discomfort is causing major brain fog. I forget what Kathy told me five minutes ago. I reply to emails multiple times. I forget, well, almost everything. I usually head to bed about 8:00, because that's the most comfortable

place for me. Watched the very PAINFUL Duke loss, but that was so addicting I didn't think about my discomfort. OK, I realize I'm whining. So sorry.

I love Bob McGowan having totally taken over Fun Tournaments (even taking picks, editing them, and writing up a copy & paste page for the newsletter. And love Chrissie Looper totally handling intramurals. That's for what I'm hoping for other things, but laptop woes force me to do them for now.

As mentioned, I'm not around the courts to sign up Newbies (who I can't welcome anyway) or take Picklers in action pics. On "good" days, I do hope to get to the courts to take pics as long as I am comfortable standing. (Oh, sitting with legs out in front of me or laying on sofa is my norm.) I AM hopeful, however it happens, to be back on the courts by the 4th of July. Meanwhile, I'll dig through unused photos of the last few years, to get some action shots of Picklers in action.

Again, I am serious. I'm more of an "It's all good" guy than a self-pity guy. But I've had SO many inquiries from Picklers who have heard this or that, I felt full disclosure was in order. I was really looking forward to Palatine's NO KINGS rally, but that morning I realized I couldn't stand for more than 2-3 minutes, and my cane would be hard to control.

I've chosen my sign-off photo, because it makes me smile. I'm hoping beyond hope that this will again be me in July. It was a happy time.



Happy pickling.

Bear

PicklersPrez