

## Newsletter

May 2017

Sherry Nogle, Editor and Don Webb, Assistant Editor

### Message from the President

If you haven't been to the Bocce Courts lately, you're missing a lot of fun. This past week of April 9-15<sup>th</sup>, we had four Neighborhoods playing bocce, one Sun City Club participating in bocce, two Bocce Club Leagues competing, three Social Events, and six days of morning play. Plus, you missed watching the installation of our four new Bocce Court Shade Covers!



I'd like to thank some of the members for their support of our Bocce Club. First, I would like to thank Paul Wiener for constructing and painting all 24 ball holders, and if that wasn't enough, he replaced the backing on our Bocce Club Bulletin Board. Thanks to Sherry Nogle and Pat Mellinger for the wonderful facelift to our bulletin board. I must thank Sherry for creating a great club newsletter. A big thank you goes to our Bocce Social Committee (Jeanne Dillinger, Pat Mellinger, and Lin Vernier) for putting together three meals for three different occasions in one week. I would also like to thank the volunteers who helped with the Georgetown Special Needs Students.

In closing, if you missed any of these activities, come on down to the courts and get-in on the action! Steve Mellinger, President

### New to the Bocce Family

1. Joe and Nanette Bennett
2. Sal and Colene Caravello
3. Sharon Elrod
4. Richard Gelbaugh
5. Dolores Gorman

### Person of Interest

Jill Wilson

Interviewer: **Sherry Nogle**

Interviewee: Jill Wilson

Interview over the internet

Affiliation with interviewee: Bocce Friend from Neighborhood 50

**Sherry:** Jill, where are you from?

Jill: I'm originally from upstate New York, but I have moved a lot. My last stop before Texas was Portland, OR. It's where my youngest child and her family live.

**Sherry:** How many children do you have?

Jill: I have three children and three fantastic grandchildren; ages two, four, and five years old.

**Sherry:** Why did you move to Sun City?

Jill: My son and his family moved to north Austin about two years before me. Facing retirement, my son took me looking for retirement options. Our first visit was Sun City. Was this not a subtle hint! I was also looking for a warmer climate for my retirement years, and I was looking for an active adult community.

**Sherry:** Tell us about your start-up business.

Jill: I have two small businesses. The first business is making animal character hats for children (and adults with a sense of humor) that I sell at the zoo. The other business is a Handywoman Service right here in Sun City.

**Sherry:** How do you spend your time?

Jill: My two businesses fund my hobbies of woodworking and stained glass. Added to that list is bocce, and Hand and Foot, and Mah Jong. I manage to stay busy!

**Sherry:** I know you do charity work, tell us more about that.

Jill: I volunteered at the Austin Zoo until earlier this year when I decided to concentrate on training my adopted dog through the Sun City Pet Club. Socks and I have recently received our therapy dog team certification, and I hope to begin working at the local elementary school in January as part of their reading program.

**Sherry:** When did you start playing Bocce?

Jill: I started playing league bocce about two years ago with my Neighborhood 50 group.

**Sherry:** How does it feel to be the first lady to win a league tournament?

Jill: I didn't realize I was the first lady to win a tournament. It's really cool, but I'm sure I won't be the last.

**Sherry:** What are your Likes/Dislikes of bocce?

Jill: I love the encouragement from the bocce league members. I dislike the heat of the summer, but hopefully, we'll get the shades promised for the courts.

**Sherry:** Share one of your funniest bocce stories.

Jill: I can't help bursting out with laughter when I think of the funniest stories at bocce. For some reason, I always think of Larry Hunting. It must be his dry sense of humor. Best of "Larryisms" when I said I had never received a first-place ribbon before, and Larry's response was, "Don't get used to it."

**Sherry:** What is your goal/goals for the future of bocce?

Jill: I would like bocce to continue to grow, and see a growth in the number of women playing in leagues.

**Sherry:** Thank you, Jill, for sharing your story with us. You are an inspiration to all who play bocce.

## **BOCCE GAMES**

### **Advanced League II Results:**

**The Final top three were:**

**1st Place - Jim Rankin**

**2nd Place - Bill DeGroot**

**3rd Place - Sherry Nogle**

### **Advanced League III**

Advanced League # 3 will start on Friday, May 5, 2017. Play is scheduled to start at 9:00 AM. We will be playing

Federation (International) Rules during this league. League. Registration closes on May 1, 2017.

Please email John Shideler at [shadraski@yahoo.com](mailto:shadraski@yahoo.com) to register for this league.

### **FEDERATION RULES – (As modified for Sun City Play)**

1. **The initial pallino thrower always throws the first bocce ball.**
2. **Each succeeding ball is thrown by the team that does NOT have the ball closest to the pallino.**
3. **A team whose ball ties the opponent's closest ball must throw again.**
4. **The team closest to the pallino only throws if opponents have thrown all 4 balls.**
5. **Balls may be bounced off or played against sideboards.**
6. **If a player throws wrong color ball, it is replaced with a correct color ball after the ball comes to rest.**
7. **If a player throws when the other team should throw, the ball is removed from play.**
8. **There are no "kiss" points, so a "kiss" only counts as one point**

### **Ladies League News**

The second Ladies League of 2017 is progressing nicely. There are 16 ladies competing on Monday mornings at 9:00. The League does need "subs", please email John Shideler at [shadraski@yahoo.com](mailto:shadraski@yahoo.com) if you can sub.

## **“INTRODUCTION TO BOCCE” CLINIC**

Every Friday in May, starting on 5/5/2017, an “Introduction to Bocce Clinic” will be given at the bocce courts from 8:00 to 8:50 AM. If you want someone to help you improve your play, please register via email to John Shideler at [shadraski@yahoo.com](mailto:shadraski@yahoo.com). See **YOU** on the Courts!

## **INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE**

Hello out there in “Bocce-land”. We are starting a new Intermediate Skills bocce league on Tuesday, May 16, 2017. The League games will start at 9:00 AM.

“Intermediate Skill Level” is defined as:

- Knows court etiquette
- Knowledge of rules and scoring
- Has played games and developing game strategy
- Has not placed in top 10 finishers of a League Game
- Competitive with players of equal ability

To register, please email John Shideler at [shadraski@yahoo.com](mailto:shadraski@yahoo.com). The deadline for signing up is May 12, 2017.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITMENTS TO LEAGUE PLAY**

League play is fun, challenging and carries a commitment to the league and your fellow players. Normally our leagues, depending on the number of players, last five (5) weeks.

We understand that emergencies happen and schedules do not go as planned, but 11 to 15 other people depend on you being there to play on the scheduled date at the scheduled time.

It also helps to get to the courts 5-10 minutes early so that you will have time to warm-up.

We will try and have a list of active subs for you to contact, but we must hear from you if you do not get a sub and cannot make it to play. Please email John Shideler at [shadraski@yahoo.com](mailto:shadraski@yahoo.com) to let us know about your situation.

Thank you for participating in our league play. We look forward to having a goodtime and great bocce. See **YOU** on the Courts.

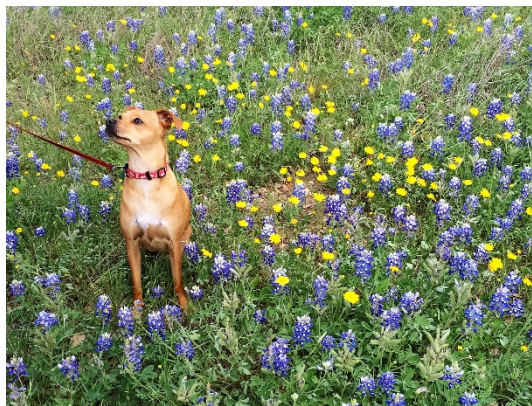


## **BOCCE HIGHROLLERS**

**Stanley Payne- 5 points**

**Nick Drury- 5 points**

## **MEET MAX—OUR BOCCE MASCOT**



Shelia has had Max since he was a 6-8-week-old puppy. He wandered up on a friend's patio at 4am. They were going to take him to the shelter that morning but had a meeting to go to. They asked Shelia to keep him until their meeting was over and that was 4 1/2 years ago. Max never made it to the shelter!

Max loves to go for long walks which includes visiting his friends at the Bocce courts. Winter confused him because no bocce players were at the courts during his morning walk.

Since it has warmed up, the players are back on the courts at 8:00 am and Max is there greeting

all the players one at a time. Everyone that plays bocce knows Max and his owner Shelia. The Bocce Members are proud to call Max, "Our Bocce Mascot".

## **What I Remember of the Early Years of Bocce**

By Joe Platek

I started playing Bocce in the year 2000. Back then I was a member of the Visual Arts Club and one day I took a walk behind the building and found the bocce courts. Back then the courts were not bounded by cement with a rubberized lining, but with wooden two by six boards. The boards were not exactly six-foot long, so they had to put them end to end with a vertical board. It was used to hold them together with nails. To visualize the problem back then, I will attempt to use the alphabet. Think of throwing a ball like the capital letter K as in a back shot off the left bank. You assume if you throw the ball at say a 40 degree angle it should do the same when coming off the wall. The wood was a bit weathered. If you looked down the length of the wall, some of the wood stuck out a bit like a capital D. The wood was bowed out and at times you would hit the end of a piece of wood and instead of a K you got an upside down capital L. The ball went straight across the court to the other side.

Three or four years after I joined the Bocce Club, I became President. As President, we were assigned a position on the Sports Committee. One of the things I did on the committee was to ask to fix the Bocce courts. One of the members on the Bocce board talked to a Sun City Bocce member in Arizona. They recently improved their courts and gave us their estimates and costs and materials they used. I passed that on to the Sports Committee and the cost was too much. No improvements for our courts!

A few years later, a resident got approval for the military memorial. I was told that when they were in the planning stages that same resident looked at our courts and decided they needed improvement because they were too close to his planned memorial and our courts might make the memorial look bad, plus they couldn't move the bocce courts anywhere else.

I don't remember when this happened, but we had what I think was outdoor carpet on the courts. The carpet had a rubber or plastic base. During the summer rain water would get under the carpet and when we had three or four days of plus ninety degrees, the carpet would billow up and hide almost half the ball from view. We complained to maintenance, but they did little to help. So, one day someone took a knife to the carpet, but then we had ruts in the carpet.

Next, we went to a carpet that was described as artificial putting green. It was like astro turf, but the grass blades were thinner to imitate Bermuda grass. They added material which I think was a combination of tiny rubber beads and sand. The material was raked in half inch at a time until the grass blades were just visible. We added a large broom and a water filled roller to maintain the surface of the courts. Someone built a ramp so we could get the roller up and in the courts.

This is how I remembered the bocce courts. Today, they are much better, but there is always room for improvement.



**The Bocce Club**  
was saddened to hear that **Gail Davis** passed away last week. Many of our members knew Gail and remember what a fun person she



was. Gail was the past Social Director of the Bocce Club.

## NEW PLAYERS GAME DAY

Come play bocce, eat Trail Mix and drink cider, and have fun with the new kids on the block! The date to remember

is  
Saturday,  
May 27<sup>th</sup>  
at  
8:00 am.



## SOCIAL EVENTS COMING IN MAY



***Gambatese Bocce Event which was scheduled for Saturday, May 6 from 10:00 to 1:00 pm has been CANCELLED due to a wedding!***

## CRAZY SOCKS/OR CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE DAY

Bring a dozen chocolate chip cookies or wear a pair of Crazy Socks or both! We will be playing 3 games of bocce.



**OR**



This event is on Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. It starts at 8:00 and ends at 10:00 am.

## ROSES FOR THE BOCCE BABES



We think our Bocce Babes are **SPECIAL** so we are giving them roses on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. The games begin at 9 am and we'll play until 11:00 am.



## ARMED FORCES DAY EVENT

Come to the courts dressed in your **red**, **white** and **blue** on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. We'll be giving out patriotic sun visors to the first 36 people to show-up at the courts. The event starts at 9:00 am – 11:00 am.

## UPCOMING MAY EVENTS

Ladies League II Play	Mon. May 1, 9-11:00	3 games, no time limit
Advanced League III Play	Fri. May 5, 9-11:00	3 games, Federation rules
Introduction to Bocce	Fri. May 5, 8-8:50	Anyone interested in learning to play bocce
New Player Game Day	Sat. May 6, 8-10:00 am	3 games
Ladies League II Play	Mon. May 8, 9-11:00	3 games
Crazy Socks /or Chocolate Chips Day	Tues. May 9, 8-10:00	Bring a doz. Cookies or wear a pair of Crazy Socks, 3 games
Advanced League Play III	Fri. May 12, 9-11:00	3 games, Federation Rules
Introduction to Bocce	Fri. May 12, 8-8:50	Anyone interested in bocce rules, and how to play instruction
Roses for the Bocce Babes	Sat. May 13, 9-11:00	3 games, Roses for the Babes
Ladies League Play II	Mon May 15, 9-11:00	Last day of league play
Intermediate League I Play	Tues. May 16, 9-11:00	3 untimed games
New Resident Orientation	Thurs. May 18, 8:30-10:00	Ballroom (Come visit the bocce booth)
New to Sun City Health Fair	Fri. May 19, 9-2:00 pm	Ballroom
Introduction to Bocce	Fri. May 19, 8-8:50	Bocce rules, and skills
Advanced League III Play	Fri. May 19, 9-11:00	3 untimed games, Fed. Rules
Armed Forces Day Event	Sat. May 20, 9-11:00	Dress patriotic, 36 sun visors
Intermediate League I Play	Tues. May 23, 9-11:00	Competition games
Introduction to Bocce	Fri. May 26, 8-8:50	Open to anyone wanting to learn to play bocce
Advanced League III Play	Fri. May 26, 9-11:00	Competition games/Fed. Rules
New Players	Sat. May 27, 8-10:00	3 games, trail mix/cider
Intermediate League I Play	Tues. May 30, 9-11:00	Competition games

