



Kitchen Talk



Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter

2016 SCTPC Board Members

President Nancy Grafton	Vice President Barb Patterson	Treasurer Gary Pinkston	Secretary VA Miller	Player Development Director Peg O'Toole	Communications Director Kathy Carr
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Volume 2, Issue 11

Fun, Friends and Fitness

December 1, 2016

Happy Holidays

From the Prez

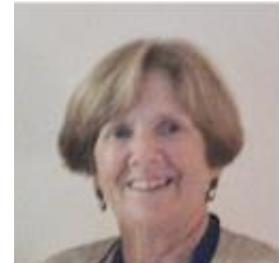
By Nancy Grafton
SCTPC President

A member asked me recently what the past 24 months has been like as Pickleball Club president. I responded, like a sleigh ride - exhilarating with new adventures along the way, and jolting when the sleigh hit dry pavement.

Fortunately, you accompanied me on that sleigh ride, bringing with you ideas to make the Club even better and providing encouragement when we hit those dry patches.

Thank you. And my deepest appreciation to all the volunteers who made our pickleball experiences so great!

See you on the courts!



Nancy Grafton

Nancy



Not So Fast, Nancy Grafton

By Kathy Carr

SCTPC Communications Director



Before you ride off on your sleigh, we have 2 words for you.

Thank You, Nancy

In your first “From the Prez” article in the January 2015 issue of *Kitchen Talk*, you advised us that whether we joined the Sun City Pickleball Club to make new friends, to get (or stay) in shape, or just to have fun, our Pickleball Board members would welcome our suggestions on how to improve our on-court experience. You added that email would work best, but if we weren’t on the court playing, brief sideline discussions would work too. We took you to task, and while we feel kind of bad about crashing your computer with the emails, we think it would help your replacement to have a number issuing ticket machine like they have in the HEB deli for the “brief” sideline discussions at the picnic table. Oh, and maybe a seat cushion.

You told us you’d listen to our suggestions and concerns for improving our Club with the caveat that concerns and suggestions must go hand in hand. That worked out well for us. It resulted in a new paddle rack system that exponentially improved court utilization and continues to promote integrated play among ability groups. It also displaced the crowds of folks standing on the sidelines in between the courts to a common waiting area that has since been beautified as a platform for social engagement.

You encouraged workshops to determine short and long-term solutions for maximizing court utilization, membership growth, social events, tournaments, volunteers, player development, member feedback, court maintenance and relationship building with the CA. You energized member involvement both as participants and as volunteers, and reminded us that “It’s all about Fun, Friends and Fitness.”

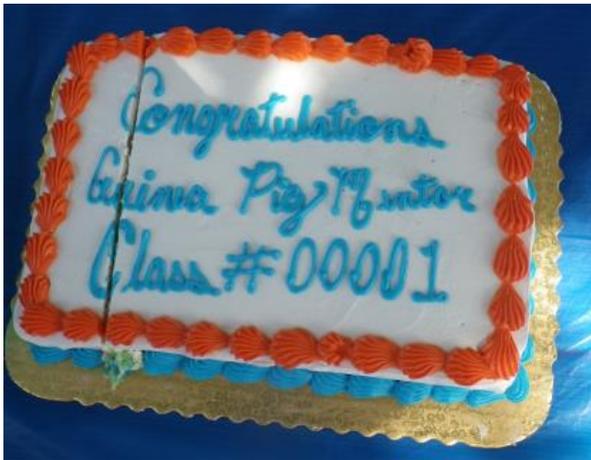
Through your influence, the lights on Courts 5 and 6 actually illuminate the courts. Our new members are greeted with a welcome letter signed by you and officially “pickled” with a hat pin upon joining the club. Our distinguished volunteers are recognized under the Volunteer of the Month program. Our training programs provide new players with the tools needed to play with confidence in their basic skills and understanding of game rules. Skills and Drills with Simon and Simone enable players to hone their strokes, and the addition of 4 more courts in the Queens Tract in September looks bright.

As club president, you have had a multi-faceted role as leader, organizer, negotiator, and at times, peacemaker. Though it’s hard to admit, Fred Kandel probably said it best when he described you as “creative, but motherly at the same time”. You promote good ideas and see them through. On top of that, you’re a darn good pickleball player.

Thank you, Nancy, for the outstanding job you have done as president of the Sun City Pickleball Club and for the humor you have maintained throughout your tenure.



Nancy Grafton leads a discussion among executive board members of the Pickleball Club.



Nancy baked this cake for graduates of the first Mentoring Class.



Nancy draws tickets for a raffle during a club social.



Nancy refs a game during a club tournament.



Nancy presents the Volunteer of the Month award to Bob Hutchins and Toni Briggs.



Nancy partners with Chuck Flanagan in Mixed Doubles at the Texas Senior Games in San Antonio.



Nancy attends the Tiaras and Tutus social.

Club Announcements

By Kathy Carr

PASCT Communications Director



Last Introduction to Pickleball Classes for the Year. If you have any friends or neighbors who are thinking about playing pickleball, let them know we have two more Introduction to Pickleball classes scheduled between now and the end of the year. This free 2-hour class is a great way to learn basic pickleball rules and etiquette while using member donated paddles to play a few games and determine if this is a game they might want to pursue. The final two classes are scheduled on Saturdays 3 and 17 December from 1 – 3 pm. Interested parties should contact Peg O'toole at jgmlo@yahoo.com to sign up for either of these classes.

Recent Postings to the Club's Website. We work hard to try and keep our membership apprised of what's happening in the Club through the monthly newsletter, *Kitchen Talk*, near-weekly announcements in the *Pickleball Express* and postings to the Club's website. You'll find a wealth of information at your fingertips by clicking on this link: https://www.sctexas.org/club/scripts/memfac/memfac.asp?MFCODE=CCLUB_PICKLE#sidebar. Among the recent postings are:

- [2016 Final Fall League Results](#) Final results of the Novice, Intermediate and Advanced groups who participated in the Fall Leagues. Rankings are provided for those who played at least 3 times.
- [New Club Bylaws](#) The revised chartered club bylaws, which were voted on by the membership at the annual business meeting and signed by Nancy Grafton, Club President, on 9 November.
- [Annual Business Meeting Minutes](#) A recap of the Club's annual business meeting that was held on 9 November at Cowan Creek Pavilion.
- [Showdown and Shrimp Boil Photos](#) An album with 72 assorted pictures from the Pickleball Showdown (fall tournament) and Shrimp Boil Dinner. Note: you may be prompted to enter your user name and password for this one.

So, just let your fingers do the walking to stay abreast of what's going on in your club. Check out our website.



Upcoming Leagues and Training Classes. Our player development director, mentors, instructors, assistant instructors, Simone and Simone operators and league coordinators are going to take a well-deserved holiday break. With the start of the new year you can expect to see a 2017 schedule of classes and leagues, so stay tuned for announcements in the next Kitchen Talk and future issues of the Pickleball Express.



Dink and Dogs Duo

This is it - the Club's final pickleball event for 2016. On Monday, 12 December, starting at 11 am, we're going to dink, eat hot dogs and raise money for the Blue Santa Program. What better way to play, dine and contribute to a good cause than this? Sign into the Sun City website and then [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#).

- Event:** December Dinks and Dogs Duo
Date: Monday, 12 December 2016
Time: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Cost:** \$2.50 per person (\$5.00 per team). Cash only to be collected at the event and donated to Blue Santa after expenses.
- Description:** 2-person teams compete in Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, or Potpourri (mixed) "dink til you drop" competition.
- Come as a team, or if you're alone, we'll hook you up with a partner.
 - Each team tries to complete the highest number of dinks in the kitchen area within two minutes.
 - Winning team in each division is recognized as the Dinking Duo.
- Post Party:** Each participant will receive a ticket for a hot dog, bottle of water and salty snack.
- Deadline:** Register by 9 December so we can have an accurate headcount to order food and water. If registering as a team, under "Registration Notes", please list the names of your two team members.
- Note:** We're also looking for volunteer scorekeepers and a hot dog chef. If you are available and willing, please contact Nancy Grafton.
- Questions:** Contact Nancy Grafton at nancygrafton@sbcglobal.net.

2017 Board of Directors Elected at Annual Business Meeting

By Kathy Carr

PASCT Communications Director

The Club's annual business meeting was held at Cowan Creek Pavilion on 9 November 2016. As a quick recap, in addition to voting in the officers for the Club's 2017 Board of Directors, recommended changes to the Club's By-Laws were approved by the quorum. Congratulations to the 2017 Executive Board for the Sun City Texas Pickleball Club:



Jack Warner
President



Bob Hutchins
Vice President



Kathy Goodall
Treasurer



Judy Blackman
Secretary



Barb Patterson
Communications
Director



Peg O'Toole
Player Development
Director

Approved changes to the bylaws include: 1) changing the Club's name from the Pickleball Association of Sun City Texas to the Sun City Pickleball Club; 2) incorporating the use of electronic voting (email and/or website ballot) for club elections, on matters brought before the general membership at scheduled business meetings and on club expenditures above \$2,500; and on the process for future changes to the bylaws. Minutes for the meeting are available for member review on the Club's website at

<https://www.sctexas.org/Files/Library/27380/NOVEMBER2016ANNUALBOARDMEETING.PDF>.



Chuck Flanagan

From the Ambassador

By Chuck Flanagan

Texas Central and South Central Pickleball Ambassador

Since its inception, the Sun City pickleball club has been offering pickleball instruction. What started as informal 'beginner' classes for all Sun City residents has evolved to an organized program of instruction. Introductory classes are still offered to all residents; however, members are offered a variety of more advanced training, available from the club's very capable training committee. Up until very **recently there have been few options available for players seeking still more** advanced levels of instruction without having to travel...usually to Coach Mo, in Florida.

All that changed with the birth of the International Pickleball Teaching Professional Association (IPTPA). The IPTPA was established at the 2015 USAPA Nationals with the goals of establishing pickleball teaching methods and standards and certifying instructors that are able to demonstrate their pickleball knowledge, skills, and teaching ability.

"The purpose of the IPTPA is to certify and elevate the standards of the Pickleball Teaching Professional. The IPTPA will be the world's leading association of Certified Pickleball Teaching Professionals, viewed and highly respected as an organization of knowledgeable experts and industry innovators. The IPTPA will deliver an on-going program of workshops, seminars and other learning experiences to continually raise the quality of each of our members. Our intent is to raise the standards of Pickleball excellence on a worldwide basis and to work in conjunction with the USAPA to help grow the sport of Pickleball."

<http://www.iptpa.com>

We're fortunate in having several of these IPTPA teaching professionals working in the Austin area and several of us have already taken advantage of this new opportunity to improve our game. One you've probably already heard of is Matt Lazarine. The club arranged for Matt to give a few lessons here at Sun City several weeks ago. Matt primarily teaches at the Austin Tennis Center (ATC), but is willing to make other arrangements to accommodate his clients. Kit Harper is another IPTPA professional teaching at ATC (usually on Sunday mornings) and will also make accommodations. One of the newest local IPTPA pros is our own Jim Brown. The good news for Sun City players is that Jim teaches at his home court and you can get there within walking distance by golf cart.

So, there you have it. The opportunities for improving your game have never been better. Sign up for one of the club's many training programs or arrange for a session (or more) from one of these certified professionals.

Joe Brown - jebexpress@yahoo.com

Kit Harper - pickleballit@gmail.com

Matt Lazarine - mattlaz@live.com

Pickleball Showdown Tournament and Shrimp Boil Was a Blast

Article and Pictures by Barb Patterson, Kathy Carr, Chuck Flanagan and Victoria Hutchins

Life does not get better than this – a complete day filled with a light breakfast, pickleball, lunch provided by Stacy Group, more pickleball, a shrimp boil dinner with 150 of your closest pickleball friends, and, for a select few, a gold, silver or bronze medal win to commemorate the day.



Rick Hutzler, Ed Hull, Judy Blackman and Dianne Delay from Team 5, the Mudbugs, display their serving skills and consequent rush to the net. Rick demonstrates single finger control of his paddle.

The action started at 9 am on 5 November 2016, when 60 players, 5 coaches and a posse of volunteers converged on the Sun City pickleball courts. Barb Patterson, the tournament director, expertly scheduled 3 divisions (novice, intermediate, advanced) of players in a round-robin competition that enabled each team to face off with others in their ability range. Unlike tournaments from seasons past (Barb is still having flashbacks), bad weather teased, but ultimately cooperated throughout the 5 rounds of scheduled play.



Coach Bob Hutchins provides guidance to his players, which paid off as they won 1st Place in the Novice Division.

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Larry Black and Fred Kandel at the NVZ.



Ken Patterson lays down the line.



Novice players sport their game faces.

Stacy Group generously donated and served lunch to tournament players courtside, as the tournament director made a command decision to beat the weather and play throughout the lunch hour. Following the day's competition, participants went home to wash up and put on clean duds.



Guarding no man's land.



That ball was here a minute ago.



It's mine. I got it.



Phil Coraggio & Lorenzo Perez.



Mesmerized spectators.



Barb Patterson give a thumbs up.

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That evening members and guests met at Cowan Creek Pavilion to partake in a more than you could possibly finish Shrimp Boil Dinner prepared by the Club's own Lonnie Ray and Bert Perkins. Debbie Schultz and members of the Social Committee were responsible to coordinate dinner and all food for the tournament day.



Lonnie Ray and Bert Perkins take a break. After cooking all the shrimp and potatoes.



Debbie Schultz takes hold of the mike to emcee the event.



Tea, anyone?



Mary Perez and Pocket serve salads.



Gotta have those greens.



And then there's the raffle.



150 satisfied pickleball customers chow down at the shrimp boil.

I know I'm in there somewhere.





And the winners are:

Novice Division

1st Place **Team 5, the Mudbugs**
Coach – Bob “Hutch” Hutchins
Judy Blackman
Diane Delay
Ed Hull

2nd Place **Team 3**
Coach – Charles Desa
Doug Brumm
Donna Holt
Cindy Sheppard
Susie Welsh

Intermediate Division

1st Place **Team 4**
Bob Cleaver
Terri Klein
Maria Sena
John Steele

2nd Place **Team 1**
Danny Ballard
Colin Murphy
Peg O’Toole
Joe Wickens

Advanced Division

1st Place **Team 5**
Donna Duffy
WR Helge
Will Saunders
Tim Sisk

2nd Place **Team 3**
Larry Black
Kathy Carr
Chuck Flanagan
Fred Kandel

December 2016 Volunteer of the Month

Nomination by Barb Patterson
SCTPC Vice President



Debbie Schultz

There's a Chinese proverb that says "Every smile makes you a day younger." If you've ever had the pleasure of standing across the net from Debbie Schultz, our December 2016 Volunteer of the Month, you likely noticed that she smiles a lot. In fact, it seems that she's always smiling. So, the real question for those Chinese "proverbians" is just how old is Debbie Schultz? Is she one day younger for a single smile that she has held on her face for decades, or is she decades younger for a long string of individual smiles throughout her life? While we may never know the answer to this, we will always appreciate how Debbie brightens up our day with those pearly whites.

Debbie is recognized this month for the outstanding job she did as Social Chairperson for the Fall "Pickleball Showdown" Tournament and Shrimp Boil, which was held on Saturday, 6 November 2016. She and her committee were responsible for all the food served during the day – which included a light breakfast at the courts, lunch sandwiches (provided by Stacy Group) and dinner cooked by Lonnie Ray and Bert Perkins.

Debbie was very organized during the planning and preparation of the day's events. She made sure that she had plenty of help and lined up sufficient volunteers to assist with all the details. In addition, during the evening's activities at Cowan Creek Pavilion, she was terrific at the microphone; she greeted all the attendees and was enthusiastic in handing out all the door prizes.

Debbie Schultz not only stepped up to the plate, she hit a home run.

After the Turkey

A joke submitted by Leon Hananel

A friend called up and asked what I was doing. I replied that I was working on "Aqua-thermal treatment of ceramics, aluminium and steel under a constrained environment".

He seemed impressed...

But on his further inquiry... I confessed that I was washing dishes with hot water... under my wife's supervision.



Did You Hear the One About...? (a last hurrah on blonde jokes)

Jokes submitted by Leon Hananel and most appreciated by your Communications Director, Kathy Carr

Yeah, yeah, I heard it before. Someone in this club in a very high ranking position doesn't like blonde jokes. I'm sure that has nothing to do with the fact that she IS a blonde. Well, she's not getting any sympathy from this gray headed old lady. In fact, she's going to have to sit through one more iteration of great blonde jokes. Sorry, Nancy; thanks, Leon; enjoy, folks. – Kathy

Two blondes were helping on a housing project, nailing on siding. One kept throwing away some of the nails. The other asked: "Why are you throwing the nails away?" The first blonde said, "The points are on the wrong end!" The second said, "Don't throw them away. They're for the other side of the house!"

The husband asked, "Did you find that shampoo?" The blonde wife said, "Yes, but I can't use it. The label says it's for dry hair and mine's already wet."

Two blondes were going to Disneyland. They were driving on the Interstate when they saw a sign that said Disneyland LEFT. They started crying, turned around, and went home.

Two blondes living in California were sitting on a bench talking, and one blonde says to the other, 'Which do you think is farther away... Florida or the moon?' The other blonde turns and says 'Hellooooooooooooo, can you see Florida?'

There's this blonde out for a walk. She comes to a river and sees another blonde on the opposite bank 'Yoo-hoo!' she shouts, 'How can I get to the other side?' The second blonde looks up the river then down the river and shouts back, 'You ARE on the other side.'

A police officer stops a blonde for speeding and asks her very nicely if he could see her license. She replied in a huff, "I wish you guys would get your act together.... Just yesterday you took my license away, and then today you expect me to show it to you!"

A highway patrolman pulled alongside a speeding car on the freeway. Glancing at the car, he was astounded to see that the blonde behind the wheel was knitting!

Realizing that she was oblivious to his flashing lights and siren, the trooper cranked down his window, turned on his bullhorn and yelled, 'PULL OVER!'.... 'NO!' the blonde yelled back, 'IT'S A SCARF!'

A Russian, an American, and a Blonde were talking one day.

The Russian said, 'We were the first in space!'

The American said, 'We were the first on the moon!'

The Blonde said, 'So what? We're going to be the first on the sun!' The Russian and the American looked at each other and shook their heads. 'You can't land on the sun, you idiot! You'll burn up!' said the Russian. To which the Blonde replied, 'We're not stupid, you know. We're going at night!'

A blonde was playing Trivial Pursuit one night... It was her turn. She rolled the dice and she landed on Science & Nature. Her question was, 'If you are in a vacuum and someone calls your name, can you hear it?' She thought for a time and then asked, 'Is it on or off?'

A girl was visiting her blonde friend who had acquired two new dogs, and asked her what their names were. The blonde responded by saying that one was named Rolex and one was named Timex. Her friend said, "Whoever heard of someone naming dogs like that?" "Hellooooooooooooo," answered the blonde. "They're watch dogs!"

A blonde and her brunette friend were waiting to cross the street when a loaded sod truck drove by.

The blonde says, "That's what I'm going to do when I have a lawn."

Her brunette friend asks, "What?"

And of course, the blonde replies, "Send it out to be mowed!"