



# Kitchen Talk

*Sun City Texas Pickleball Club Newsletter*

## March

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy March!

I don't know about y'all, but this weather has got to change or my wife may kill me for moping around the house all the time. So March does bring cooing doves, our first general Board meeting on the 14th, and hopefully better weather. We are also gearing up for our big April tournament, so be on the lookout for sign-up information. And I almost forgot to mention the informal opening of our new courts. We have been given temporary use of the courts with the understanding that when the developer needs to install the pavilion (sometime in April), the courts will be closed. We then plan to have a grand opening following the completion of the facilities.

I'm looking forward to it all being done.

As my granddaddy used to say, "keep your paddles up and be aware of those line shots".

See you on the courts,  
Hutch

**Look in the mirror...  
that's your competition.**



# CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FROM OUR TREASURER



The Pickleball Club fund balance as of January 31st is \$13,506. Total revenues were \$5,020 and total expenses were \$319 for net income of \$4,701. We have 502 paid members (\$5,020 Membership Dues). Expenses were primarily Supplies of \$189 and Printing/reproduction Expense of \$91.

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE EVENTS

**Dinks, Chow and Chat** - Tuesday, March 6th, at Wriggley's from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Come join your SCTPC friends and enjoy discounts on house drinks and pitchers!

**"Swing into Spring" BBQ Dinner** - Our spring dinner will be held at the Cowan Creek Pavilion on Saturday, April 14th starting at 5:30 pm. Stay tuned for an eblast with details on when tickets will go on sale through the SCTEXA CA ticket system. Volunteers will be needed to help the social committee with events during that day. Please contact our Social Committee chairperson, Sharon Douglas, if you'd like to help:

phone - 203-733-5854, email [-shazhas3kids@gmail.com](mailto:shazhas3kids@gmail.com)



**Dinner Cruise** - Come join your Pickleball friends on a relaxing dinner cruise on Lake Buchanan with live music and a delicious dinner of Jamaican Chicken, Wild Rice, Veggies, Bread, Coffee and Dessert! The Pickleball Dinner Cruise is Saturday, June 2 from 6-8 pm leaving from: 443 Waterway Lane, Burnet, TX 78611. The cost is \$37.95 per person and participants need to book their own ticket reservation on [vanishingtcruises.com](http://vanishingtcruises.com) for June 2, 2018 from 6-8pm. Reserve your ticket today! There is a limit of 100 people. We will set up carpools to get there.

## LEAGUES AND TRAINING

If you are interested in any of the training classes, please send an email to Peg O'Toole, Director of Player Development, at [jgmlo@yahoo.com](mailto:jgmlo@yahoo.com). Spring leagues will start in April, after the tournament. Stay tuned.



# WELCOME JANUARY NEW MEMBERS!

First Name	Last Name
James	Adams
Sue	Ashby
Bill	Beattie
Anne	Buhls
Nicky	Buss
Paul	Chenault
Karin	Christy
Donald	Columbus
James	Cooper
Bill	Cyrus
Richard	Dalton
Donna	Demaris
Stacy	Dennis
Sharron	Driskill
Wayne	Edly
Gloria	Elder
Sharon	Finlay
Duane	Franke
Sylvia	Green
Walt	Green
Nanci	Horton

First Name	Last Name
Diane	Hutto
Woody	Hutto
Dan	Jowers
Patricia	Knapp
Melinda	Larson
Larry	Laurent
Sharon	LaVallee
Bill	Lotak
Jack	McGowan
Wayne	Meredith
Rebecca	Miner
Michael	Moher
Petra	Moher
Jen	Molineux
Larry	Molineux
Paula	Mulhearn
Mary	Olivera
Cam	Pearce
Bill	Reeves
M.C.	Reeves
Michael	Rhoda

First Name	Last Name
Joyce	Rickman
Rick	Rickman
Beth	Sandman
Brad	Sandman
Sunny	Schultz
Jeanne	Sheriff
Stan	Shroyer
Dennis	Smith
Maureen	Theroux
Bill	Thielepape
Jim	Tobin
Cynthia	Warner
Margo Chase	Wells
Judith	Whitmore
Cheryl	Willis
Dave	Witter
Maryann	Witter
Tim	Wolf
Bruce	Wolitarisky
Carol	Wolitarisky



# WELCOME FEBRUARY NEW MEMBERS

First Name	Last Name
Gordon	Bartholomew
James	Buss
Kimberly	D'Arcy
Paula	Foerster

First Name	Last Name
Sandy	Gunter
Todd	Gunter
Glenda	Marshall
Betsy	McMurry

First Name	Last Name
Robert	Miner
Sheila	Quinn
Sally	Tompkins
Diane	Weiss

## SPRING TOURNAMENT

Join the fun with the pickleball gang at our **"Swing into Spring" Tournament on Saturday, April 14th**. The tourney will be a same-skill level event with Novice, Intermediate and Advanced teams. Tournament check-in time is 9:00 am at the Sun City Courts and play should be completed by early afternoon.



**Tournament Registration\* will be via our SCTPC website**, starting immediately. To enter the tournament, click on the following link - [Swing into Spring](#). **(You will need to be logged into your SCTEXAS.org account to enter)**. You do NOT need to enter with a partner; teams will be assigned. Please do NOT try to enter the tournament at the CA office (they won't know what you're talking about!) **Entry deadline is March 14th**.

There is no entry fee for the tournament. Breakfast items for players will be served during the morning. Lunch for players will be provided by Jan Schmidt of the Stacy Group.

A BBQ Dinner will be held at the Cowan Creek Pavilion in the evening following the Tournament. Stay tuned for details from the Social Committee concerning how to purchase tickets for the dinner.

Do you have questions about the Tournament? Would you like to help with registration, tournament setup or coaching a Novice team? If so, please contact Barb Patterson - [SCTXpickleball@gmail.com](mailto:SCTXpickleball@gmail.com)

*\*Must be a member of the Sun City Texas Pickleball Club to play in the tournament.*



# COACHING DURING MATCHES

*By Daniel Joseph ("DJ") Howard, Pickleball Instructor*

## **Do not "coach" your teammate during matches!**

Your teammate is your teammate, not your student (unless, of course, you are a real pickleball instructor and your teammate IS your student, but that is rare and you get my point, so please go with me here). You are peers with your teammate. This is true whether you are a guy playing men's doubles, a gal playing women's doubles, or you're playing mixed doubles.

You ought not be TELLING your teammate what to do. If they ask for advice, you may give it. Exception: if you have a longstanding relationship in which you are the boss and they are a mouse who is willing to do the bidding of whatever the boss says, then I guess I'm not speaking to you. But my guess is that is a very small minority.

A good teammate will make suggestions. He/she will communicate well without bossing you around. A good teammate allows you to offer your opinion and discuss the suggestion he/she just made.

Try this: approach your teammate with a suggestion or something to think about. "Think about hitting to player A's backhand." Or, "next time my serve return is really deep and gets the opponent off balance, consider poaching. You good with that?" Or, "When is this (X) situation, I'm seeing this (X). Let's try (X)."

This non-threatening approach keeps your teammate in your good graces and won't make them feel badly for making a mistake and won't make you upset if they don't do exactly as you say.

Do NOT say to your teammate, "Help me out! You need to take those balls out of the air!" Or, "You're hitting too short. You need to hit your returns deeper!" Or, "Don't hit that shot. It doesn't work. You need to do X instead." This approach does not breed camaraderie, but has the potential to put an emotional wedge between the two of you.

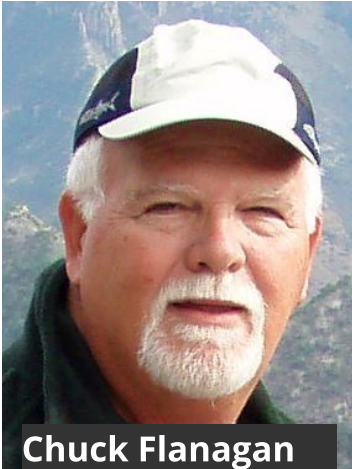
If you want to stay connected emotionally with your teammate, offer advice or make suggestions. But please save the coaching for someone else like a qualified pickleball pro or at least wait until you are done with your match when you have an opportunity to discuss things with your teammate.

Til next time, keep reppin'!

-DJ



# FROM OUR DISTRICT AMBASSADOR



**Chuck Flanagan**

## USAPA AMBASSADORS RETREAT

And, we're back! Your intrepid USAPA ambassadors, Barb and Chuck and their spouses, Ken and Elaine, successfully made their way home

from the USAPA Ambassadors Retreat, at the Club Med, in Port St. Lucie, Florida. This was a five day event filled with daily pickleball, seminars, social activities, and great dining with friends...old and new. I originally thought about boring you with a list of all the seminars but thought better about it and decided to just hit the highlights.

The most anticipated seminar was scheduled for Wednesday afternoon and we went early to be sure to get seats. The topic was, "Rules and changes for 2018", presented by Christine Barksdale, USAPA Managing Director of Competition, and Jim Hackenberg, member of the Rules Committee. By now, everyone had seen the new rule changes and there had been quite a furor on the ambassadors forum concerning some. In anticipation of that, some ambassador's husband from Georgetown, Texas (who shall go unnamed!) bought some large shooting targets for Christine and Jim to wear. After a short intro, Jim and Christine took off the jackets to reveal the targets and said, "Hit me with your best shot!" (while that song played in

the background!) They then proceeded to explain the reasoning behind the changes and cleared up many of the misunderstandings that had emanated from the forum discussions and to answer questions.

One of the more exciting events was the "Clinic Capers", created by Kalamazoo, Michigan, ambassadors, Yvonne and Jim Hackenberg. This was a series of ten events designed to test a variety of pickleball skills. One of the more novel and challenging events was the one paddle dinking drill. This involved six players (three per side) trying to continuously dink one ball back and forth, each player hitting the ball in turn. Our own Barb Patterson's team won that event with 183 dinks. While that sounds impressive on its own, it becomes herculean when you realize that there was only one paddle per side and they had to hand off the paddle to the next player after each dink!

The retreat was a mix of serious USAPA business (rules, insurance, education, membership, etc.) pickleball fun (games, drills, demos by great vendors), and camaraderie with the opportunity to talk with ambassadors from around the country. It reinforced the reasons that I'm a member of this great organization and why I work as a volunteer to help it succeed.

**"Let's play pickleball and have some fun!"**



# VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

## JOHN CARTER



*John has secondarily contributed to the improvement of doubles play on the Sun City pickleball courts and inspired program graduates to test their developing capabilities in league and tournament play.*

*John leads through example as he can be seen down the courts drilling with his doubles partner almost everyday (ask his wife), participating in the club's Advanced League, and playing in tournaments throughout Texas and New Mexico.*

## Congratulations John!



### **From Kathy Carr:**

*John Carter is recognized for his contribution as associate instructor for the club's Intermediate Training Program.*

*Over the last year John has donated more than 70 hours of his time to help train, evaluate and improve intermediate player performance. He has helped teach the concepts of playing "smart pickleball" by conducting practice drills, evaluating player performance and providing feedback for individual improvement.*

*Besides boosting individual player competence,*

*Do you have someone you'd like to nominate for our "Volunteer of the Month?" If so, click here - [Volunteer of the Month Program](#) to learn more.*



# VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH CONT'D.

## **From John Carter:**

It was the best of times. It was the worst of times. My dad sat me down for a father-son talk (no, not that talk). He felt it was time for me to take on more responsibility and that it should come in the form of a part time job. The local golf pro, a neighbor, suggested becoming a caddy at The Minneapolis Golf Club. So the next morning before sunrise, I headed out to the proverbial caddyshack. It was there I first learned a lot of four letter words and an intimate knowledge of golf over the next few summers.

Sports were a big part of my youth. I developed a strong love of nature and the outdoors. As I got older most of my free time was spent hunting and fishing. Still, golf was always in the back of my mind.

When it came time to find a place to retire, warm weather was at the top of my wife, Barb's list. I thought now would be the time to finally get serious about golf. We also thought an active retirement community was important. Being that I attended school in Austin, it was a natural place to start looking. It didn't take long before we were moving into a new neighborhood in Sun City.

I was out in the driveway one day shortly after we moved in when a woman with striking white hair pulled up in a golf cart. The outfit she had on contained all of the colors in the rainbow and then some. I remember thinking maybe the circus had come to town and nobody had told me. Anyway, she asked me, "Are you doing anything?" and I said "No". She said "GET IN". All of a sudden that line my mother told me so many years ago about not getting into vehicles with strangers came rushing over me! I stopped and thought for a moment, then reluctantly climbed into the golf cart and sped off. Having been on the track team in high school as well as college I figured I could probably out run her if things went sideways. After what seemed like forever, we pulled up in front of a miniature tennis court and my indoctrination to pickleball began. Toni Briggs had just brought another one into the fold. But the story

doesn't stop there.

I practiced hard all summer with other beginners. During that entire time I was encouraged and lavished with praise by Toni. One day Toni came up to me and said "I think you are *turning to the dark side* so there is someone I want you to play". I didn't exactly understand what she meant, but I said, "Bring him on" thinking I was going to kick some serious ass. That evening found me at the courts standing across the net from a petite woman with a menacing stare. Long story short, the only ass that got kicked that night was my own. Afterwards, she asked me if I wanted to learn how to play *Smart Pickleball*. I said sure and found myself enrolled in Kathy Carr's first intermediate pickleball class.

We spent a full week of studying, drilling and playing pickleball followed by a mini student tournament afterwards. Now I was never in the military and I know Kathy retired from the army as a high ranking officer but I can't help but think she had to of been a drill sergeant at some time. It's funny, but every time I play pickleball with Kathy, for some reason it takes me back to the caddyshack. Oh, and in case you are wondering, I haven't kicked Kathy's ass in pickleball yet but it's coming and when it does she is the one that will have the biggest smile on her face. That's the coolest part.

I've been helping Kathy with intermediate classes ever since taking her first one. Each keeps getting better than the last. I would encourage ya'll to take the class as soon as you are ready to start playing *Smart Pickleball*.

One final note. It doesn't look like that golf game is going to develop any time soon. I didn't even buy a punch card this year. That's ok - I'm just too busy right now!



## JOKES AND FUN STUFF!

### **Locked Out** *(submitted by Chuck Flanagan)*

She hurried to the pharmacy to get medication, got back to her car and found that she had locked her keys inside. The woman found an old rusty coat hanger left on the ground. She looked at it and said,

"I don't know how to use this." She bowed her head and asked God to send her some HELP.

Within 5 minutes a beat-up old motorcycle pulled up, driven by a bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag. He got off of his cycle and asked if he could help.

She said: "Yes, my daughter is sick. I've locked my keys in my car. I must get home. Please, can you use this hanger to unlock my car?"

He said, "Sure."

He walked over to the car, and in less than a minute the car was open.

She hugged the man and through tears said, "Thank You, God, for sending me such a very nice man."

The man heard her little prayer and replied, "Lady, I am NOT a nice man. I just got out of prison yesterday; I was in prison for car theft."

The woman hugged the man again, sobbing, "Oh, thank you, God! You even sent me a Professional!"





## MORE JOKES AND FUN STUFF!

### **Pickleall In Heaven** *(submitted by Jim Truho)*

Two 90-year-old women, Rose and Barb, had been friends all of their lives.

When it was clear that Rose was dying, Barb visited her every day.

One day Barb said, 'Rose, we both loved playing Pickleball all our lives, and we played all through the years. Please do me one favor: When you get to Heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's Pickleball there.'

Rose looked up at Barb from her deathbed and said, 'Barb, you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favor for you.'

Shortly after that, Rose passed on.

A few nights later, Barb was awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to her, 'Barb, Barb.'

'Who is it?' asked Barb, sitting up suddenly. 'Who is it?'

'Barb, it's me, Rose.'

'You're not Rose. Rose just died.'

'I'm telling you, it's me, Rose,' insisted the voice.

'Rose! Where are you?'

'In Heaven,' replied Rose. 'I have some really good news and a little bad news.'

'Tell me the good news first,' said Barb.

'The good news,' Rose said, 'is that there's Pickleball in Heaven. Better yet, all of our old buddies who died before us are here, too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always springtime, and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play Pickleball all we want, and we never get tired.'

'That's fantastic,' said Barb. 'It's beyond my wildest dreams! So, what's the bad news?'

'You're my partner next Tuesday.'

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## 2018 SCTPC BOARD MEMBERS AND MANAGERS

President - Hutch

Vice President - Charles Desa

Secretary - Judy Blackman

Treasurer - Kathy Goodall

Player Development Director - Peg O'Toole

Communications Director - Barb Patterson

Maintenance Director - Bob Cleaver

Pball Machine Coordinator - Wayne Schaefer

Social Committee Chair - Sharon Douglas

Sunshine Ambassador - Pat Hall