



Kitchen Talk



Pickleball Association of Sun City Texas Newsletter

2016 PASCT Board Members

President Nancy Grafton	Vice President Don Hayes	Treasurer Gary Pinkston	Secretary VA Miller	Player Development Director Peg O'Toole	Communications Director Kathy Carr
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Volume 2, Issue 5

Fun, Friends and Fitness

May 1, 2016

From the Prez

By Nancy Grafton
PASCT President

Thanks to everyone who embraced the new court utilization process! Players are circulating among all six courts, the laughter and storytelling within the "common area" are bringing our membership closer together, we're getting in more playing time with the reduction in wait time, and we are definitely burning more calories as we exit the courts and return to the rack.

An especially big thank you to: Sandra Eyster for submitting the idea that developed into the new system; Charlie Hagan for drafting the new paddle rack rules; Chuck Flanagan for establishing the traffic flow; Lee Miller for donating the new clock on Court 4, installing a rod on the fence and providing the "D" clips to hang your sport bags; all the folks who put up, took down, put up, and took down the canopies, trying to protect them



Nancy Grafton
PASCT President

from the severe storm that came through during the month of April. Thanks also to Lynn Hayes, who with her trusty sewing machine, repaired a tear in one of the canopies after a recent storm, and finally, and to all those who showed up during the first week to explain the new system (Cindy, Kim, Don, Gary) as folks showed up at the courts to play.

Just a reminder, if you hang your bag on the fence where the AED machine is located, **please hang it outside of the area marked in orange near the AED machine.** This area must be readily visible for speedy access. You can also use the bag holders, which are located outside the fence on Court 4.



Club Vice President, Don Hayes, orients players to the new court traffic flow.



Members of the Sports Committee at a recent meeting.

For those who are eager to hear an update on court sharing #11 and 12 with the Tennis Club, the CA has set a deadline of May 5th for both Clubs to work together to submit a plan for court sharing. There are still a few days left, and if we can't reach an agreement, the Sports Committee will develop the plan for us. We'll keep you posted at the situation progresses. Life is never dull!

Nancy

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Club Announcements

By Kathy Carr

PASCT Communications Director



About Those First Aid Kits. In case you didn't know, David Manley is our volunteer caretaker for the Club's first aid kits that are located under the benches at Courts 3 and 5. While David dutifully checks the kits once a week, it would be helpful if when you use any of the items in the kits that you let him know so he can replenish the supplies. David's e-mail is davemaggie.manley@yahoo.com.

Men's NASCAR Mini Pickleball Tournament. Men, get ready to start your engines and register for a great fun day at the pickleball courts. Saturday, 18 June is the date. Starting at 8:00 am, games will be played along with several contests to test your skills. Registration starts on Monday, 23 May and ends on Friday, 10 June. There is no cost to participate. The theme for this year's event is NASCAR. Wear or bring anything you have that mentions NASCAR or cars. All participants will receive a new (toy) car. To register contact Richard Bradley at rbradley1963@gmail.com or call him at [\(573\)528-0007](tel:5735280007). We need a minimum of 16 participants.



Need Volunteers for Kid's Camp. It's that time of year again. Richard Bradley is seeking 8 volunteers to help teach pickleball at Kid's Camp this summer. This is a great opportunity to introduce the sport we love to the future pickleball players of America. Classes will be conducted on two consecutive Wednesday's - 15 June and 22 June, from 8:45 am – 12:30 pm. If you would like to volunteer for one or both of these dates, contact Richard Bradley at rbradley1963@gmail.com or call him at [\(573\)528-0007](tel:5735280007).

Ice Cream Social. Did somebody say *free ice cream*? Yep, that's right. Come on out to the courts on Saturday, 14 May 2016 at 7 pm and enjoy some free ice cream and good conversation at the Pickleball Club's Ice Cream Social. If you're concerned about calories, bring your paddle and play some pickleball while you're out.

Register today on the Sun City website by clicking on [Free Ice Cream for Me](#). Log into your account and go to the Pickleball Club home page. Under "Event Registration" tell us how many folks in your party, and in "Registration Notes" enter your favorite flavor of ice cream – vanilla, chocolate or strawberry. Then click on "Register for Event."



14 May 2016
7 pm



Fall Tournament Scheduled. While it's sad that our spring pickleball tournament was rained out, we can find solace in the fact that the Fall Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, November 5, 2016. Cowan Creek Pavilion has been reserved for the entire tournament day, and hopefully, by then, we should have additional court space available to accommodate all who want to participate.

From the Ambassador

By **Chuck Flanagan**

Texas Central and South Central District Pickleball Ambassador



Chuck Flanagan

Summer is approaching and many of us will take the opportunity to do a little traveling...possibly in search of cooler climes. So, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about the "Places to Play" link on the USAPA web site. Just go to <http://www.usapa.org/places-to-play-pickleball/>, click on a state, and view the list of locations where pickleball is played. You'll find a trove of information such as points of contact, email and phone numbers, fees, and interactive maps.

As you may know, the USAPA has experienced phenomenal growth in recent years. Nowhere is this more apparent than in the "Places to Play" listings. In 2003 there were 39 known places to play listed on the web site. Today there are just under 4,000 places listed. That is nothing short of amazing! So, think about taking your paddle along this summer and stop in and visit some of these places as you travel along. It's a great opportunity to get a little exercise, meet new friends, and see how other groups play the game and manage their courts. Bring home some great memories and fresh ideas.

Sun City Players Medal at Texas A&M Tournament

Photos Submitted by Mary Payne

Some of the Pickleball Club's usual suspects participated and medaled at the 2d Annual RPTS Pickleball Tournament held at Texas A&M on 23 April 2016. Shown below: Pic 1: Chuck Flanagan, Steve Timmons, Sandy Arico, Dorinda Williams, Mary Payne, Terry Harper, Antony Curtis and Stan Payne; Pic 2: Clark Grafton and Nancy Grafton.



Ed. Note: The following article was included in the April 2016 Mid-South Region Pickleball Newsletter passed onto me by Chuck Flanagan. Whatever your personal motivation may have been to play your first game of pickleball, I think you will find some relatable points in this story. Hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

The Adventures of Pickleboy

An Original Story by Corey Messler

Published in the March 2016 Issue of Memphis Magazine



I stumbled into my fifties. Agoraphobia was more than a heavy coat; it was a straitjacket. Had I made peace with it, after suffering for more than a decade? No, I made no peace. Every time I wanted to do something that my anxiety prohibited I bled as if it were my first wound.

I was alone a lot. My wife, Cheryl, told me that agoraphobia fit our lifestyle, so I stayed home and read and wrote. I reduced my time at the bookstore my wife and I own by about 70 percent and became what I had always said I'd be good at: a househusband.

Being athletic has always been a touchy subject for me. When I was very young I was small and wispy and uncoordinated. I did not learn to ride a bike till I was a shameful 11. I could not throw or catch a ball. There was only one way for a boy to be in 1960s America and that was tough and athletic. I wanted to die. This life was too hard and I was not cut out for it.

But wait, the peers I grew up with in Raleigh were also the kindest boys I've perhaps ever known. They all were very good athletes, fast, graceful, strong, and tough. All things I was not. But did they exclude me? They did not. I played every game of street football, backyard basketball, corkball, kickball, whiffle ball. They did not judge. I played, and gradually gained some physical dexterity, because they were kind and patient and included me. I pay tribute here to the boys of Kenneth Street.

In high school I began to play tennis seriously. I wasn't great but I had fun and, every once in a while, I pulled off a whipcord backhand that split that sliver of space between net and opponent's racket. I lived for these moments. They made up for the whiffs, the double faults, the poor net play. I discovered I loved racquet sports.

In the middle of 2015 sat a hurdle in my life: my 60th birthday. I did not vow to exercise more or to try and find a tennis partner or to pick up jogging again. I assumed I was on the downward slope of life, and who starts something new at 60?

But, friends, I was not busy dying. Something was about to enter my life that would be my best discovery since my wife. That something was pickleball.

Pickleball is like geriatric tennis, played with paddles and a whiffle ball. It is not new; it began, like so many good American revolutions, on the West Coast in the late 1960s. But recently it has exploded, for whatever reason. In Memphis you can find myriad places to play.

I believe I read about it first in a newspaper. Oldsters were playing it. And, by a coincidence that Jung would surely say was not coincidence, the great wheel of existence dropped off an angel in my bookstore, in the form of my friend, Peggy Owen.

Peggy Owen played pickleball. It's very low-key, she said. It's for folks even older than you. Her group was now playing at Idlewild Church, twice a week. She invited me. Don't bring a paddle or ball. Just show up.

For some reason, the first day I decided to drive myself to Idlewild, dressed in old gym clothes, which had served mostly as pajamas, I did it with no anticipatory anxiety. I was in the mood to find a sport after not playing a sport for more than 25 years.

And I not only found the sport, I found a group of people I quickly became fond of. They are grand, magnanimous, welcoming, fair-minded, fun and funny, even joyful. They play for the pleasure of the game. Winning is lagniappe. And I found a new me, one that had not shriveled or crashed the way I had thought.

And so I have become a pickleball player. Not great but with flashes of bright performance like diamonds in a junk heap. Sometimes I go on a good run of play and it's a heady, intoxicating feeling; it's similar to the rush of writing for an hour or more and losing track of the real world. I play pickleball twice a week. I miss it when I am not playing. I even dream about playing.

The moral of this story? It's never too late to have a happy childhood. My friend, Lisa, has given me my new sobriquet, Pickleboy. Pickleboy I am and Pickleboy I shall remain until my body can compete no more. All these beautiful, older people give me hope that I can play for a long time, and that I can, again, with humility bred by my sissy past, call myself an athlete. Some days, friends, I kick agoraphobia's ratty ass.

Since 2000, Corey and his wife, Cheryl, have been co-owners of Burke's Book Store, a Cooper-Young landmark that was established in Memphis in 1875.

Memphis Magazine March 2016

Guess I'm not the smartest of editors. I had to look up a couple of words in this article. The first was "lagniappe." It means something given as a bonus or an extra gift, like the 13th donut in a baker's dozen. The second was "sobriquet." It means nickname. I sure am glad I read the Mid-South Region Newsletter. The fact that this article, written by Corey Messler, with the sobriquet of "Pickleboy" was included was lagniappe.

Winning Argument.

Submitted by: Toni Briggs

A man was walking along the Maine coastline. Distracted by his own deep thoughts, he tripped on an object that had washed ashore. He picked it up and carefully rubbed the sand from it. Suddenly, a cloud of smoke appeared and a genie emerged from what appeared to be a magic lamp.

The man was startled and then amazed when the genie announced, "Hey, thanks for letting me out of that old lamp. It was getting kinda cramped in there. To show my appreciation, I'm going to grant you one wish. What would you like?"

The man said, "Wow, well, okay. Build me a bridge to the Bahamas so that I can drive over anytime I want."

The genie replied, "Your request is very materialistic. Think of the enormous challenges for this undertaking. The supports to the bottom of the Atlantic, and the concrete and steel! I can do it, but it is difficult for me to justify your desire. Take some time and think about something that is a little less self-gratifying instead."

The man thought for a long time. Finally, he said, "I would like to understand my wife. I want to know how she feels, what she's thinking when she gives me the silent treatment, what she means when she says nothing's wrong."

The genie replied, "You want two lanes or four on that bridge?"



Fred's Corner (One Man's Opinion)

Reserved for Fred Kandel

Contributing Writer and Member of the PASCT

Fred's not here. As we mentioned last month, on April 16 he departed on a 29-day transatlantic cruise with his wife. Rather than leave a blank space in this newsletter, we thought it best to leave "Fred's Corner," well, in a corner, until he gets back.

Fred will be back with "one man's opinion" next month.

Hope you're having fun, Fred.



Fred Kandel

5th Annual Pickleball Spring Tournament Rains, but Still Shines

By Barb Patterson and Kathy Carr

The PASCT spring tournament was programmed for Saturday, April 9, 2016. Round-robin play was scheduled for 60 players within 3 divisions: Novice - 5 teams with 4 players and a coach per team; Intermediate - 5 teams with 4 players per team, and Advanced - 5 teams with 4 players per team. Additionally, there were 2-3 players on a wait list for each division.

Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate and participants were only able to play for about 20 minutes before rain made the court conditions dangerous. For a while, the rain stopped and everyone pitched in to try and dry the courts to resume play, but intermittent showers made it impossible.

Stacy Group generously donated and served lunch to players at the game room in the Activity Center. Later that evening more than 100 club members enjoyed dinner catered by Legacy Grille in the Georgetown-Florence Room at Cowan Creek. Sara Wahlquist and a team of committed volunteers coordinated the dinner and all food for the tournament day.

While words may make it seem like it rained on the parade, pictures tell a different story.

We had the tournament director....



the theme,



the breakfast goodies,



the scoreboard,



the bunny,



and, of course, the players.



Then we had the rain....



the reactions to the rain...



the huddling, cuddling, and singing in the rain...



the futile efforts to dry the courts...



the wonderful lunch provided by the GREAT folks at Stacy Group....



and finally, the fantastic dinner.



Now we just need to ...use our Mulligan and hope for sunshine in the Fall so we can play pickleball.



Volunteer of the Month Spotlight – Sara Wahlquist

Submitted by Barb Patterson

PASCT Tournament Director

Congratulations to Sara Wahlquist, our April 2016 Volunteer of the Month.

Sara is recognized for her role as this year's Spring Tournament Social Chairman. She stepped up to the plate and superbly managed all duties associated with the social side of the Pickleball Club's "Swing into Spring" Tournament Day on April 9, 2016. She and her committee were in charge of all the food for the day, which included breakfast at the courts, lunch, coordinated with the Stacy Group, and dinner catered by Legacy Grille. Door prizes were gathered, centerpieces were made and dinner was served by Sara and her group.

Sara was enthusiastic and extremely responsible in handling all of the issues that come with overseeing such a large task. When Legacy Grille decided, at the last minute, that exact numbers were needed for each entrée selection, she swung into action and made sure all of the attendees got their choices to her. When the weather didn't cooperate for tournament day, she took it in stride and made the best of the rainy situation.

About Sara:

Born and raised in Appleton, Wisconsin, Sara has a degree in Social Work from the University of Wisconsin. She's worked a variety of jobs.... as Social worker, Counselor, Director of Membership for the Girl Scouts, Special Education Aide, and, what she considers her greatest role.... motherhood!

Sara met her husband, Joe, in college and they've been married for the better part of 39 years. They have two sons, 4 granddaughters and a grandson. Their visits to family in San Jose, CA and Springdale, Arkansas keep them busy!

While Sara and Joe built their house in Sun City about 3 years ago, they rented it for a year before actually moving here. After Joe semi-retired in August 2014, they made the big move from Kohler, WI – far away from the cold and snow.

Sara started playing racquetball and tennis in her twenties. Most of the time she played tennis, joining many leagues and tournaments in Georgia and Wisconsin. She even had a license plate that said, "Lv Tennis". Not anymore... Since moving to Sun City, pickleball is her new passion!!! She loves the speed of the game and the camaraderie of the people who play it. She compares it to having a fraternity / sorority all wrapped into one with many "brothers and sisters".

When she's not out on the courts, Sara can be found in the garden, volunteering for several committees in Neighborhood 57 or just hanging out at the pool. She tries to play golf, helps Joe with his projects at the Woodshop, goes for walks and enjoys getting together with neighbors and friends on the patio!

Though Sara feels lucky to be part of the Sun City scene and she hopes for many more years here especially on the court, it is the Pickleball Club who is lucky to have Sara among its membership and as our volunteer of the month.

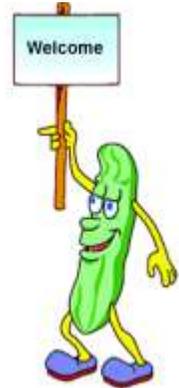


Sara Wahlquist
May 2016 Volunteer of the

Welcome New Members

By Don Hayes
PASCT Vice President

Here is a list of the 11 new members who joined our pickleball ranks within the last month. That brings us up to 466 active members. Please welcome these folks when you see them on the courts. If they're wearing a hat, look for the little green pickle on it. They've been pickled – that is, they were presented a welcome letter from our club president along with a hat pin pickle to recognize their new membership. A special shout out, also, to returning residents and club members, Jim and Deb McPartland.



Mike Butts	D'Les Longino	Alan Powdermaker
Barbara Elliott	Ron Longino	Ann Yee
Cheryl Jamison	Randy McDonald	Jack Yee
Beverly Kraska	Billy Nobles	



Barb, "Scrubbing Bubbles" Patterson

For the Love of the Sport.

There is devotion to the sport you love, and then there is DEVOTION to the sport you love. Apparently we have a club member whose true devotion to pickleball shows no bounds.

This an honest to goodness picture of our esteemed tournament director, Barb Patterson, caught by her husband scrubbing her pickleballs in the bathroom at home.

No moss growing under this woman's feet.

No Winners on Guessing the Owners of These Shoes.

Last month we offered a free subscription to this newsletter to the first person who could correctly guess the owners of these court shoes. There were no winners. While that may be considered a sad thought by itself, it gets worse. Even though the actual owners of these shoes saw me take a picture of their feet, they couldn't correctly identify their own shoes. What does this say about the whole contest? Yeah, dumb, huh?



Donna Duffy



Kim Stout



Jerry Fronczak



Toni Briggs

Thank You Spring Tournament Volunteers

As a final note this this month's newsletter, we'd like to recognize the efforts of all the volunteers who helped with this year's annual spring tournament. While the rain may have dampened the courts, it could not dampen the spirits of all who contributed. Job well done!

Tournament Director	Barb Patterson
Court Cleanup	
Scott Brady	Keith Cadwallader
Phil Coraggio	Chuck Flanagan
Clark Grafton	Charlie Hagen
Pat Hall	Don Hayes
Larry Hudson	David Laird
Barb Patterson	Ken Patterson
Dave Rudes	John Sena
Maria Sena	June Sewell
John Steele	Paul Straube
Traffic Cops	Dave Stateler Cathy Stateler
Cinnamon Rolls	Sandra Eyster
Registration	Donna Duffy
Lunch	Stacy Group

Social Chairman	Sara Wahlquist
Social Committee	April Anson Kat Barras Toni Briggs Sharon Campbell Cindy Kaminky Dave Manley Maggie Manley Joe Wahlquist
Decorative Napkins	Earl Forbes
Food Servers	Kat Barras Toni Briggs Cindy Kaminky
Cake Cutter	Debbie Schultz
Donations and Prizes	Toni Briggs Brad Duffy Sara Wahlquist