

WCPC 2019 December Newsletter

It is almost the end of 2019, almost the end of the decade. December can be so hectic, so many things to do, buy gifts, send gifts, make and send Christmas cards, find a charity to donate time or money to, meet friends for parties or for lunch, plan that trip skiing or that vacation to warmer weather, make cookies or candy for the neighbors, etc. It is good to take a little time, take a deep breath and try to look back and see what we've done or accomplished, or screwed up. We can always do better..... It's good to make plans for next year, do things the right way, be more involved with our families, especially our children, visit older relatives if you are lucky enough to have some, they can tell you so much if you can hear them. Plan to get that check up you need or see a doctor about some nagging problem. Look forward to the New Year. I still hope for a better year next year, every single year. What do you hope for?

Welcome to New Members

Ann Aldridge-Peacock, Lauren Artress, Barclay Buss, Bill Clark, Steve Hutnick, Liz Legrandy, Susan Light, Brad Lowe, Teresa Jacobs, Joanne Martens, Michael Ramsex, Dale Prentice, Chris Reilly, Scott Rosenkrantz, Nancy and Perry Soloman, Jonny Stevens, Kris Surano, Welcome to all!

Holiday Hours Schedule for Inside Play:

Tice Valley Gym

Open this week Wednesday and Thursday 9 AM to 3PM and Friday 9AM to Noon; Next week closed Monday and Christmas Day, Open Thursday and Friday; Closed through December 31st. Check January schedule from the link on our website.

Ultimate Fieldhouse

Open Tuesday thru Friday from 11AM to 2PM.
Check their schedule from the link on our website for hours next week, usually closed on Mondays.

ARC SR United Methodist Church

Closed for floor restoration December 19th through 27th.
Open Monday Dec. 30 and 31st, 9 AM to 1PM
Closed New Years Day; Open 2nd and 3rd 9AM to 1PM.

Iron Horse Middle School

Closed the next two Sundays

Pleasanton Middle School

Will be open

New Board Members Elected

Here is the list of all those elected by the membership for the 2020 New Year:

President - **Hormoz Baba**
Vice President - **Jon Rego**
Secretary - **Cece Kohl**

Treasurer - **Mike Gabrielson**
Membership - **Teresa Wenzel**
Social - **Danielle Lucking**
Tournaments/Leagues - **Eric Tate**
Public Relations/Liaison to the City - **Kris Hunter**

Non Board Positions:
Venue Manager - **Steve Bagot**
Venue Maintenance - **Tosh Kuritsubo** and **Ed Oncena**
Webmaster - **Pasko Varnica**

Thank you to all that volunteered to take these positions and move our club into the next decade! Everyone appreciates all the time you will be giving! Thank you to all those that returned for another year of running our great club, **Hormoz, Cece, Teresa, Danielle, Tosh and Ed and Pasko!**

Thank you to our outgoing Board Members, **Bill Marsh** and **Anna Leskovar**. Your help was greatly appreciated. Thank you also to our past Venue Managers, **Ron Blasquez** and **Thom Macpherson** for their years of help, trading off every other year!

Ball Donations

Thank you **Larry Grabel** for you donation for balls!

Towel Donations

Gary Caires and **Laurie and Alan Savage**, all brought more towels to help us dry the courts after the rainy days started.. Thank you **Gary and Laurie and Alan!** They really work better than everything else. We do have a squeegee and roller in the shed to move the water off the courts. We will be replacing the squeegee soon as the rubber edge is getting a bit to low and could damage the courts. Everyone can help out during the winter months. Share the chores! **Teresa** and **Cece** and **Kris** have been doing loads and loads of towel drying at home. Everyone can volunteer too!

Water Bottle Donation

Cece Kohl, took those many, maybe 30 water bottles that were never claimed and gave them to a group of deserving disabled adults that she works with. **Cece**, you are always so thoughtful!!

Donated the Old Grill

We donated to old grill to a Metal recycling company that came by and picked it up one rainy day. We have a new one that is stored for the winter that we can use next year. Bill Marsh will not have to run back and forth cooking burgers at his house and then bringing them to the picnic, for several hours! Always nice to have a grill that actually works!

Gearbox Paddle Demo Days

Tom Hartman from South San Francisco has been to Rudgear twice with his paddles and his knowledge. Hopefully you got to Rudgear and talked to Tom and got to try some of them out. Tom, many thanks for coming all the way out to this side of the Bay!

Missing, Injured & Other

We have many members that are in our thoughts. **Wayne Moon**, is doing great after his knee surgery! Woo Hoo! He was at the party with wife **Judy**. I got to play pickleball at Tice Gym with **Barbara Anast**.

She will tell you she has slowed down, then you go racing after one of her good shots as it goes by you! **Kelly Morgan** is nursing a torn hip muscle and we hope she is getting better. **Ed Baxter** had his knee surgery on Nov. 26th and we hope he is doing well in his rehab. **Rick Corella** had surgery and was back out walking within days with the doctor's blessing. **Dave Weingart** had the same surgery and took a month off and was out last week hitting some balls. Both men looked great and we are glad to have them back! **Pastor Rob Baker**, one of our best players with great tips, for all those he plays with, has been going in for exams and a MRI and is looking at knee surgery in January. We hope it goes well Rob, hearts and prayers are with you and all the others too. We are always glad to play with **Cedric DeVries** and hope his wife is doing well now. Karen **Drescher**, we know it's been a tough year. Glad to see you back out on the courts and at the party! **Bill Matherly**, it's been way to long since we've played. Hope you back is better and that you enjoyed your trip! **Tim Tamura**, we hope you are doing well and want you to know we've missed seeing you at Rudgear! **Marsha Tiller**, we know you were nursing an injury before Nationals. Hope you are doing well. **Roger Stone**, we have not seen you in a while, and hope your knee is better.

Elaine Hennessy has finally returned home after a very, very long ordeal with a bad pneumonia. Thirty two days in the hospital, ventilator, and ICU for many days. Kevin, her husband beside her every day. He was kind enough to keep updating all those full of worry. Her progress was slow but meaningful. It took every ounce of strength she had left..... She is a 5.0 pickleball player and a past 5.0 tennis player too. She is an athlete with a strong heart and will fight this battle until we see her on the courts once again! Don't over do the workouts Elaine. We all hope you are doing well! We are losing one of our long time friends and member, **Dr. Bill Lide**. He and his wife are moving to Washington State. He has a beautiful home in Pleasanton that has a pickleball court too. Someone that plays pickleball would love his back yard! **Bob and Joyce Jensen** were back this week to see some friends but they have sold here and moved to La Quinta full time. We will miss all of you! Linda Gray we still miss you too. **Nancy Smith, Monica Mitchell**, it has been way to long! **Steve Ritz**, hope you and **Linda** are enjoying your new home closer to the "grand"!

Back in Town

A few weeks ago **Frank and Sue O'Connell**, our fun past members, that live in Lincoln now, were back in town and playing at Rudgear. Sue had been down in the past, but this time we got Frank back to play with us! Just like old times!. It was really nice to catch up with both of them and play some pickleball!!

More Glorious Food

Mary Zaletel brought some wonderful Pink Lady Apples, **Gail and Rich Zavala** have been bringing two types of apples from their trees. Yummy! **Gary Caires** brought hot coffee and snicker-doodles. Yummy on a cold day! **Maggie Hochfelder** brought ginger bread that was gone in a New York minute!! **Vicki Morse** brought more of those tiny sweet as can be tomatoes from her garden and **Mark Nollsch** brought some Rice Crispy Cookies made with brown rice. **Krispy Cream** brought some persimmons from her neighbors tree. **Kristin Lanham** brought a pumpkin pie for everyone that played early on Thanksgiving Day. It really made the day! We had Cranberry bread another day. **Eric Benson** brought lots of lemons from his trees. **Rusty Lent** brought some yummy chocolate coated pretzels that didn't last long!

Christmas Party at Hillside Room

We just held our biggest party ever, almost 120 attendees at the Rossmoor Hillside Room. Many thanks to **Linda Bower** for getting the rental and the date we wanted! **Carol Pillsbury** helped us with all the table cloths and mirrors on every table. Thank you Carol, the tables looked great thanks to you! **Teresa Wenzel** worked for days collecting cracked pickleballs to make our fantastic pickleball Christmas trees with lights on every table! They were so festive! **Cece Kohl** and **Danielle Lucking**, you shopped and bought the supplies and the **WINE** and put out the schedule of what to do, to make it a great evening for so many members! Thank you so much. **Maggie Hochfelder**, thank you for going to all the trouble to get the two Honey Baked hams and for bringing them over early so we could get them prepared for the party! You are the best! Thank you **Tosh Kuritsubo** for helping prepare the hams. To all the men, (Cece's word,

hunks!) **Jon Rego, Mike Gabrielson, Ed Oncena**, for helping carry all the party supplies into the building and helping set everything up with tables and chairs, hours before the party.. Thank you all for staying and helping clean up also. Thank you **Kathy Sotaric** and **Mary Nelson and John Webb** for all your help cleaning everything up at the end of the party.

The band **Remedy** played again and they are starting to feel like "OUR" band! Such nice music in the background when we all were arriving and having drinks and appetizers. Thank you **Liam Krauss** for getting all the members and guests to the food tables with some order. You really provided all the songs we love and you looked great in that tux while you sang it all! Many thanks to all the band members for a very enjoyable evening of dancing!! If you are interested in hiring this band or contacting them, you can contact **Liam Krauss** at liamonacoustics@yahoo.com

Thank you all that attended for bringing your favorite foods and appetizers and side dishes and desserts! There was not much left at the end, so we enjoyed it all! It was nice seeing **Wayne and Judy Moon** that evening as I don;t get to play with them very often. Very nice seeing these long time members at our parties!

I want to thank the **Board** for the great gift! I was surprised when **Cece** gave it to me and asked members to do a toast. What great members! Many thanks to all!
It has been four years, as your President, many ups and downs along the way. I've been a member since 2012 and have enjoyed every year more than the last. We have built a wonder club and have raised money from donations for our very nice courts at Rudgear Park. We put a lot of hours and work into all the Community Service Days, making the comfortable seating area we have. I hope to continue to work with the city staff to further pickleball in Walnut Creek. Our membership has grown to over 550 members and I am sure it will continue growing for years to come. Tennis is declining and pickleball is growing faster than cities can put up courts for all those wanting to play. Thank you to the best members, the most most generous, and friendly and inclusive members that are kind to others. We are a real community of players/athlete's from all over the Bay Area. Let's keep it rolling!

New Pickleball Courts in 2019

3/9/19 - Vallejo Mare Island Pickleball Indoor Courts
4/6/19 - Crow Canyon CC, Blackhawk CC and Diablo CC - pickleball league play
4/13/19 - Redwood Heights Park in Oakland held a pickleball demo day
5/9/19 - Tahoe courts at Kinlner Park - new dedicated courts
9/7/19 - Piedmont opened courts at the Middle School
9/20/19 - Cedar Rose Park in Berkeley - 4 new dedicated courts
10/28/19 - Palo Alto Mitchell Park - 6 new dedicated, 8 multi-use courts

Donations to Clubs

If you are looking for a good cause, **Discovery Bay PB Club** is still raising money for their new courts. Contact **Bob Lyman**, rallyman@mac.com. They are also looking for donations for the **Oceanview Park** Courts in Albany, trying to convert tennis courts to 7/8 pickleball courts, hopefully. Contact **Debra Bernhardt**, debromi707@yahoo.com.

Interesting Obit

Barney McCallum
1926-2019

On Bainbridge Island, near Seattle, **Barney McCallum** was known as a handyman. So two of his neighbors, **Joel Pritchard and William Bell**, asked him to help refine a game they invented in 1965 as a diversion for bored children.

The game was akin to tennis, but with a smaller court, wooden paddles and a plastic ball. Mr. McCallum used his handsaw to make better paddles for what came to be known as pickleball. He later headed a company that made pickleball equipment.

Mr. McCallum, an envelope printer by trade and the last survivor among the three friends, died Nov. 18 at his home in Seattle. He was 93.

To his surprise, pickleball became a fast-growing sport world wide. The underhand serve is easy to learn. Little arm strength is required. Finesse in aiming the ball can make up for a lack of speed.

Long popular with people over 60, pickleball now attracts younger players as well.

Its name remains a source of confusion. Many articles say it was named after Pickles, a dog owned by the Pritchards. **But Frank Pritchard, said the dog was named after the game.** He said his mother, **Joan Pritchard** derived the name from "pickle boat," a term that can refer to the slowest boat in a race.

Written by James R. Hagerty

Thank you **Dave Brown** for sending me this article.

12 Days of Pickleball

12 People Waiting

11 Points a Winning

10 Lobs a-Flying

9 Dinks a-Bouncing

8 Hours Playing

7 Picklers Laughing

6 Shots a-Blocking

5.0 Rating@

4 Addicted Players

3 Practice Drills

2 Perfect Paddles

And a Brand New Pickleball Shirt!

Merry Christmas Everyone. Have a great holiday with your family, your friends or your family of friends. Share all the good with each other. Life is short, But life is good! We are all so very lucky to have the lives we have. Every single day is a gift. Give thanks. Carpe Diem! Seize the Day!

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