



The Pickle Vine

Volume 1, Issue 7
December, 2018



Calendar

IMPORTANT NOTICE !!!

The Annual PRP General Membership Meeting will be held on **January 12, 2019**, at South County Regional Park, Cooper Street. Please attend, as an important vote will be held to elect new members to the Board. (more info page 2)

AAU National Outdoor Pickleball Championships	Nov 28- Dec 2
Happy Hanukkah	Dec 2
Charlotte Co. Commissioners Meeting re: PicklePlex™ (see p 10)	Dec 11, 9:00 a.m.
PRP CHRISTMAS GALA , Twin Isles Country Club, Punta Gorda (see p 3)	Dec 16 5-10 pm
Merry Christmas!	Dec 25
Annual PRP General Membership Mtg (see p 2)	Jan 12 4-6 pm
Tyson McGuffin and LevelUp Camp 5 hrs/day for 3 days (see p 4)	Jan 28-30
Tyson McGuffin and LevelUp Camp, 5 hrs/day for 3 days (see p 4)	Feb 1-3
Picklers' Challenge Final Round Robin Party @ South County Outdoor courts	Feb 10
PRP Tournament (more info in next issue)	March

MEET THE MEMBERS...

We have a unique opportunity to introduce Frances Gammie to you this month. It seems odd to introduce Frances as most of you know her already! As a matter of fact, most of us learned from Frances! She is such a powerhouse for our club, always working to bring in new members and promote the sport of pickleball to new players.

Introducing Frances Gammie



My husband Doug, and I both come from a farming background in Saskatchewan, Canada. We raised two children, Shantel and Brent, and have four wonderful grandchildren. In 1983, a career opportunity arose for Doug which meant moving the family to Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Doug enjoyed working for Case New Holland throughout his 37 years with the company until he retired in 2007. Wanting to be close to the water, and far from snow, we moved to Punta Gorda to start the next chapter of our lives.

I was introduced to pickleball while visting friends in Mesa, Arizona nine years ago. I saw a tournament being played and thought, "Now that's a sport I can play and it looks like fun!" The next day our friends gave us a quick lesson and we were hooked!



Now I had never heard of this sport before, so I went on the internet to see if it was played in Florida. To my surprise it was not only in Florida but at South County Regional Park, only two miles from home!

There were about 30 picklers playing at the time, but gradually more and more people starting coming to South County to find out what this game called "pickleball" was all about. Seeing a need for someone to teach new players the rules and make them feel welcomed, I made the decision to get involved and started a free instructional program at South County. That was eight years ago... and now over 2,700 people have been through that program. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever imagine this sport growing so big. I feel blessed to have made so many pickleball friends and I am reminded of this every Fall upon my return home each October. Four years ago, when the Peace River Picklers was in its infancy stages of being set up, I was asked to head up the Club's Membership Committee. Every year the President, Joel Shaffer, challenged me with a new membership goal to reach. To Joel's surprise (and mine also), our membership has doubled each year! The Peace River Picklers strive to offer new and improved programs each year to our members. *(continued on Page 2)*

We welcome newsletter submissions, suggestions, comments.

Co-editors: Ginny MacDonald (macdonald24520@gmail.com) Sue Meyer (suemeyer@umich.edu)



PRP TIDBITS...



MEET THE MEMBERS...

FRANCES GAMMIE

(continued from Page 1)

Something you may not know about me... While living in Lancaster, I was involved in getting another sport going in our town with "the first ice rink". I learned to make ice, manage the snack bar, and even ran the Zamboni!

Announcement!!!

PRP's Annual Tournament

Will be in March, 2018

(Membership not required)

More info in January Newsletter

PRP ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON JAN 12th!!!

Noon– 4:00 Play Pickleball at South County Rec Center, inside and outside

4:00 – 5:00 Meeting, South County Rec Center

5:00– 6:00 Refreshments served

6:00 – 7:00 Play pickleball



PLEASE NOTE!!!

Dragon Boat Lesson postponed until January, 2019. Many of our members found December too busy a time. We hope by changing the date to January, more members will express their interest. Stay tuned for a "new"

date announcement! Please contact lcoe49@gmail.com if interested in participating!!!

FOOD DRIVE

We are so happy to learn that over 200 cans/packages of non-perishable food has been collected so far and is continually delivered to St. Vincent De-Paul. We will continue to accept donations, so dig deep in your pantry and help us bring the numbers up even more. **THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS**, especially during the holiday season.



Feeding the Community

Pickler's Playgrounds

In Punta Gorda:

Gilchrist Park, West Retta Esplanade

South County Rec Center, 670 Cooper Street

In Port Charlotte:

Harold Avenue Rec Center, 23400 Harold Avenue

In Englewood:

Tringali Sports Center, 3460 N. Access Rd

PEACE RIVER PICKLERS

Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Peace River Picklers, Inc. pickleball club is to promote pickleball through education, clinics, and competitive tournaments to residents of Charlotte County and surrounding areas as well as providing opportunities for competitive and social pickleball activities. Our overall theme is to encourage sportsmanship and camaraderie through fun and exercise.



Social News...

By Susan McKittrick



See you at the Holiday Gala!!!
(Reservations still being accepted!!!)



Celebrate the Season with your fellow Picklers at our Annual

Holiday Gala

Sunday, December 16, 2018
5-10pm

Twin Isles Country Club
301 Madrid Blvd, Punta Gorda

\$40 /person
includes appetizers and buffet style dinner
Cash Bar

Dancing to music provided by
TAT2

RSVP by Dec 8

by sending check payable to Peace River Picklers, Inc
to 3941 Tamiami Trail #3157, PMB 325, Punta Gorda, FL 33950
(Seating limited to 164)

Doors open at 5p; Appetizers begin at 5:30p; Buffet opens at 6:30p; Band begins at 7p
Festive Attire



MENU

Hors D'oeuvres passed from 5:30pm

- Spanakopita*
- Coconut Shrimp*
- Mini Beef Wellington*

Buffet Dinner, opens at 6:30pm

- House Salad, choice of Balsamic or Ranch dressing*
- Carved Prime Rib au jus, choice of raw or sauced horseradish*
- Flounder stuffed with Asparagus, Prosciutto, Provolone, with Hollandaise*
- Tuscan Chicken Breast with Sundried Tomatoes*
- Medley of Julienned Fresh Carrots, Green Beans and Red Pepper*
- Herb-Roasted Fingerling Potatoes*
- Penne Macaroni and Cheese*
- Key Lime Pie*

Selection of wines available for \$12 per bottle; Cash Bar



This year we are participating in a **Holiday Charity Drive** by encouraging members to make donations to the Homeless Coalition of Charlotte County and the Brookdale Senior Living Center in Punta Gorda.

What is needed: Men's, women's, children's undergarments, new or gently used men's, women's, children's jackets, sweaters, toiletry items, clip-on earrings. Items can be dropped off at Cooper Street, inside, starting *now through Saturday, Dec. 15th*. You may also bring your donations to the Holiday Gala where a donation box will be available.



*Warm wishes for a
beautiful holiday season!*





TYSON McGUFFIN
COMING TO PUNTA GORDA!!!
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS!



The #1 Pro Singles Pickleball player in the world has joined forces with Pickleball Magazine's LevelUp Camps. He will be leading two back-to-back camps at South County Rec Center for 3.0-4.0 players! Both sessions offer 15 hours of instruction over three days:

Session I: January 28-30 or

Session II: February 1-3

The Camps are designed for levels 3.0-4.0 with students partnered on courts with similar skill levels. Since all the drills are cooperative, the skill discrepancy between players is never a factor in the overall experience of the camp. Instructors build a strong foundation on fundamentals and mechanics, as well as an emphasis on strategy, point building and percentage play. Student/instructor ratio is 8:1. The camps include video feedback, pro demonstrations, group drills, and plenty of individual attention on all aspects of the game.

Sign up now for this unique opportunity! For more info on cost and content, go to:

www.thepickleballmag.com

Click on LevelUp Camps, (scroll down to McGuffin on the above dates.). It is listed as Ft. Myers, but it will actually take place in Punta Gorda at South County Rec Center, outdoor courts. Shade and water will be provided to participants.



Joanne Hace and Scott Tingley

Congratulations again to **Joanne Hace**, winner of the Summer contest to name the PRP Newsletter, "The Pickle Vine." We had many great entries and it was tough to choose one winner. We offered a prize of a one-hour lesson with any PRP certified instructor and Joanne chose pro player and IPTPA-certified instructor, **Scott Tingley**. Here is what she had to say....

"Thank you so much for gifting me the pickleball lesson with Scott Tingley. I was immediately at ease with his personality and approach to the lesson. Throughout the hour, he identified several things that would be advantageous to work on with drills and practice. I think drills and practice are an essential way to improve my game. Lessons with a pro can also be important because they can identify areas that need correcting or improving. Thank you again. "



PRP INSTRUCTION AND DRILLS/SKILLS



Submitted by Lin Coe

Our instructors would like to thank the members that continue to support our programs. Special thanks to the volunteers that give their time and skills, helping with demonstrations and assisting with the different drills. The Drills/Skills classes/clinics are for 1 1/2 hours for 5 weeks. They cover the following skills:

1. **Stroke Fundamentals:** grip— ready position—basic footwork—split step
2. **Basic Strokes:** dink—forehand and backhand – serves and return of serve – third shot drop – forehand and backhand volley—introduction to offensive and defensive lobs
3. **Basic Strategies:** respect the net – serve deep – return of serve deep – approaching the NVZ – keeping your opponents back when they are at the baseline – communication – develop consistency
4. **Safety:** proper foot wear (court shoes) – eye protection
5. **Warm-up and Cool-down:** exercise to reduce the risk of injury—to prepare the cardiovascular system – increase blood flow – increase flexibility

Practice Practice Practice!!!

If you take the PRP Skills/Drills or a lesson from one of our local certified teachers, remember to **PRACTICE!** Practicing repetitive motions will help to improve your strokes and strategies. Learn to identify your strengths and weaknesses. Divide your practice time between your strengths and weaknesses, with more time spent on weaknesses.

COMING SOON!!!!

NEW SKILLS/DRILLS SESSIONS

New sessions of Skills/Drills and Instruction are being finalized and will be announced soon via e-mail. They will also be added to the January Newsletter. As soon as you receive the e-mail you will want to sign up, as the limited spaces go fast.



Pete and Gloria Reilly led a mixed drills/skills session on Monday evening outdoors.

Lin Coe led a mixed indoor drills/skills session in the mornings on Tuesdays

Lin Coe led the women's outdoor drills/skills session in the mornings on Thursdays



INFORMATION FOR ALL



LET'S PLAY
PICKLEBALL



COURTESY PLEASE!!!

As the courts get increasingly busy and paddles are lined up for the next available court, PLEASE keep your eyes open when your time is getting close. Nothing is more frustrating than holding up the next four paddles, calling players to a court with no response. And PLEASE, have a ball with you!! Keep your eyes open, ears perked, and ball in hand.

Please avoid walking onto another court to retrieve your ball, even when the other team's play is over! Call "ball on court" and wait for the ball to be retrieved. When returning a ball to another court, try your best to see where the ball needs to go and get it to the player.

Please use the entrance gates getting to and from your court, avoiding walking across another court in play.

Do you know that it is a rule to call the score clearly before you begin your serving motion? Receivers... be ready, refrain from chatting and holding up play. If you need a little time to discuss your play or strategy, just call a time out.

Remember.... An "out ball" call is the decision of the receiving side. We all try our best to make the right call, but if you are the receiver and you are not sure and your partner did not see it, it is an "IN" ball. Just call it in.



IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR ALL PLAYERS

AT SOUTH COUNTY REC CENTER, OUTDOOR COURTS

It is the responsibility of all of us to be sure that the nets are returned to their respective storage area after you are finished playing. If someone left them for you, you are still responsible for returning them to storage and locked up. Remember, these courts are multi-purpose courts, occasionally used for tennis. Also, please carry the nets by the horizontal bar, not pulling on the net itself. Tears in nets are a real issue! Thank you!

Also... if you see any damage to one of our nets, please email Pete Reilly at peteglo.reilly@gmail.com



PRP LEAGUES—CURRENT LEAGUES



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER LEAGUES



WERE VERY POPULAR AND SUCCESSFUL!

Thanks to Some Great Playing and Fabulous League Leaders!!! And thanks for the great pictures!!!!!!



Monday Morning Outdoor Women's League, Lin Coe, League Leader



Monday Evening Outdoor Women's League, Jean Standifer, League Leader



Thursday Morning Outdoor Novice League, Susan Brickell, League Leader



Tuesday Morning Outdoor Mixed 65+ League, Frank Panhuise, League Leader



Thursday Morning Indoor Mixed Novice League, Frances Gammie, League Leader



Saturday Morning Mixed Outdoor League, Jean Standifer, League Leader



Friday Morning Indoor Mixed League, Curt Crosser/Susan McKittrick, League Leaders

STAY TUNED!!!!

New Leagues are currently being developed to begin in January. All members will receive an e-mail with the information and how to register. They do go fast, so register early!



NEWS FROM SUE CARMAN...

The PicklePlex Board wishes everyone HAPPY Holidays!

* All permitting is complete and the contractor is now able to proceed with the first 16 courts!

* The recent Poker Run had over 100 participants and was a tremendous success.

* Al Green is heading up our referee program and had a great turn out for the November training class. Another training opportunity is currently being planned for January and the date will be announced soon.



*** * * * * ATTENTION * * * * ***

Join us!

PicklePlex™ will be on the agenda of the Charlotte County Commissioners' Meeting on December 11 at 9 a.m. We are requesting funding toward bathrooms, a concession stand, and of course our second set of 16 courts. We are told it helps our cause to have support among the audience so please come...

wear your pickleball shirt (PicklePlex™ if possible). If there is overflow we can pack the hallways. The News Media will be there!!

If anyone has purchased a home in Charlotte County in the last couple of years because of Pickleball it would be helpful if you could write a letter to express why you chose this as your new home. If you will be out of town, perhaps you can have someone who can attend read your letter.

We would like to relay our sincere thanks to the PicklePlex™ team for hosting a fantastic poker run and picnic. The event was well-run, fun for all the players, and the food at the picnic was fantastic. Especially nice, was playing next to the future site of our first 16 PicklePlex™ courts. We are so excited about our future!

If you have not already been to the PicklePlex web site, it is worth the visit. You will find information, illustrations and pictures of the features planned, the sponsors on board, etc.. If you have not taken the opportunity to donate to the effort, it is easy to do so right from the web site. Just go to:

<https://www.pickleplex.org>