

February 2020 WCPC Newsletter

February started off cold and it was like pea soup driving a few blocks down to the Rudgear courts. Tired of the cold, foggy, cloudy weather we had been having. Then the 49ers lost the Super Bowl but the other team had their first win in 50 years! So it wasn't all bad. We had a Gearbox Paddle Demo Day that same morning with **Tom Hartman** from Foster City. He brought our club some great deals on the Dura balls and we needed them! Some weeks we were going through 55 balls in the cold weather. We bought a large amount of Franklin balls also, which **Eric Tate, our Tournament/League Director** likes. The sale was for two days, \$1.00 a ball. Big Savings on these too. We are stocked up and ready for more warm weather. It is the first February without rain that I can remember, but I also think it was one of the coldest too.

Welcome New Members

Elmer Chin, Forrest Cioppa, William Drysdale, Annamaria Flamburis, Shelly Gwynn, Hali Hausmann, Jason Johnson, Clay Kallam, James Lee, Leslie Nilson, Neil McGovern, Charles Seidel, Ken Stone, Mike Tyburski, Jane Walker, Kathy Walker, Lu Walker, Patrick Wong, Roxanne Wong

Welcome to All!

Remember to pick up a current member directory at Rudgear or Tice Gym. The New 2020 Member Directories will be given out at the Annual Membership Meeting in May. And all will be listed on our website in the Member Only area if you want, or you can opt out.

Membership Renewals Are Due Now

Memberships run from January to January. We take renewals from November to February. If you want to be listed in the **2020 WCPC Member Directory**, please get your renewals in now. You can pick up forms at Rudgear Park or Tice Gym and send them in snail mail with your payment or use our website (**WalnutCreekPickleballClub.com**) and use the on line form that you can email in. Then use PayPal to pay your dues. Dues are still \$20 a year or \$21 if you use PayPal. What a deal! Our **Membership Director, Teresa Wenzel** would like you to get your forms sent in, if you have already paid her or paid through PayPal. She still needs all your information and the signed Waiver on the membership form to process your membership renewal.

Valentine's Day Poker Chip Play

Everyone that attended had a fun day of play, meeting new members and seeing old friends. We had lots of fresh fruit cups and Cranberry or Mango Orange Juice. The croissants and **Cece Kohl's** homemade jam were the best! **Teresa Wenzel** brought her homemade Raspberry Cake and **Cece Kohl** brought her Banana Bread. Cheese and Crackers and Valentine candy and See's chocolates, made for a yummy breakfast! Good weather too! Everyone commented that they love these social play days. It was a very successful day! Many Thanks to **Daniell Lucking our**

Social Director and **Cece Kohl**, our **Secretary** and **Hormoz Baba**, our **President** for running a great event! Thanks to all that helped clean up too.

Russell Ogawa won a box of See's Candy that he shared with everyone at the end of round one. **Debra Bernhardt** won the second See's candy box, during the second round. She bet **Cece** she would win the candy and she did!

Good bye Again

One of our well known members **Greg "Wilder" Harper** moved to Eugene, Oregon. If you ever played with him, you know how he got that nickname! **Pete Sciarretta** was up there on a trip and they got together and played some pickleball and caught up.

Light in the Shed at Rudgear

Many thanks to **Lisa Klein** for putting the push button light in our shed. Someday's you just have to change clothes and the light really helps.

Wood box for the Member Directories

You might have noticed that we have a very nice wooden box that holds our Member Directories, now sitting on the Sign In table. That was bought from **Vicki Morse** and her friends in the wood working class. **Sonia Almeida** bought several items and donated it to our club! Very nice Sonia! Thank you Vicki for bringing all the items!

CPR Information and First Aid Kit

Just in case it is ever needed, the current CPR instructions are on the board inside the shed, on the door. The address of the courts is listed and you would call 911. We have asked the City/Lifetime about getting a AED, over a year ago. With our group, it would be nice to have one in our park. We will keep trying.

There is a red First Aid Kit on the top shelf in the shed. It was recently replenished with new Ice Packs, in case they are needed for any injury. Band aids, etc are in the small white First Aid Kit on the same shelf. Thank you **Steve Bagot** for the new Ice Packs.

Donations

Maureen Bromolini donated 8 Neon Franklin balls. She also wanted everyone to know that the First Friday of each month, from 11 am to 12:30 pm, **Pickleball for People with Parkinson's** will be held at the new courts at 560 59th Street, in Oakland. Friends and family are welcome to play also. For more information or to advise attendance contact yopd@pdactive.org or 415-987-1807. All equipment is provided and the play is free of charge. A waiver must be signed.

Thanks for the donation and the information Maureen! Nice seeing you!

Kathy Sostaric donated 9 Neon Dura balls too. She's been traveling and was having lots of pickleball play on her trip to Las Vegas. **Julie Bosch** was in town from Massachusetts and made

a \$10 donation for balls. **Nancy Tietz**, who was out a lot of last year with a shoulder surgery, is back and donated 4 dozen Dura. We are glad you are back in action Nancy! She also took a large load of towels we use to dry the courts home and brought them back ready to use again.

Cheri Kirschenheuter, Cheri K. for short, donated 9 Dura balls too. Thanks so much! **Kim Bouffard** donated more colorful dry erase pens for our white board! Great! **Daryl Holt** made a \$20 donation for balls too! Thank you! **Beverly Schlehuber** donated more dry erase pens. Thanks so much. We are stocked up now!

Cece Kohl donated some of our bags of cracked balls to San Ramon High and they loved them and use them for their rotating pickleball play in PE. I think we will donate all the new bags of Onyx balls, we have not used, to the school. Cracked balls are not all they cracked up to be!

Pickleball Clinics at Tice Gym

Rusty Lent, one of our members and a **IPTPA Certified Teaching Pro**, finished working at the ARC Methodist Church in Alamo, in December and is now running some clinics with 8 players at Tice Valley Gym! He has had several groups over there in the early afternoons. Years ago he ran our free Drill Days at Rudgear and made every day fun and you learned new information about the game. He is very popular and really helps players find their game and improve their strokes. You can contact him at lentfam@yahoo.com.

There is information about other teaching Pros, including **Rusty Lent**, that are also members, **Miriam Garfinkel**, **Jordan Briones**, **Patricia Strazzi**, **David Wage**. Their cards are in the shed on the board, on the door. Take a picture with your phone to keep the info. The new schedule with Lifetime Tennis classes is also posted there. **Marcia Neishi** teaches at Willow Pass Park and is also a certified IPTPA Pro. She gives lessons and runs clinics there.

Operations, Back in Action or ?

Mike Palucki is getting a knee replacement soon. Hope that goes well. **Patty Andrews** had knee surgery a few weeks ago and we have missed seeing her on the courts. I heard she was back for a little play, just this week. **Julie Chandler** had a eye problem that will require surgery. We hope it all goes well! **Bev and Walter Schlehuber** had been MIA for months. Bev came back and told us Walter had been sick with pneumonia that was hard to kick. A few days later Walter was back too! So glad to see you both! **Mike Luevano** had torn his bicep on his playing arm and I heard he was just getting back on the courts after several months off. **Barbara Anast**, who I see playing at Tice Gym had to have eye surgery. We hope you are doing well Barbara! **Dan Young** had pulled his hamstring and is finally back with his wife **Julia** after two months of rehab. Good to see you both!

Lynn Hildebrand was going to have a cataract surgery sometime soon. She and **Dick** were back in town from the desert and we got to catch up. Hope all is going well! We miss you and **Dick** when you are out of town.

Missy Park had a sore shoulder but is now back in action. What a competitor! Glad to see you on the courts! Thank you for all your offers to help our club! It was really nice to see **Shari Gonzales** back on the courts after having plantar fasciitis for too long! **J. Carro**, nice to see you playing without that sling you had! **Carolyn Daniels**, hope you knee is feeling better.

We had not seen **Sandra Seskin** in a while but she showed up at Rudgear and we got to catch up too. Still a few I haven't seen in too long, **Nancy Smith, Monica Mitchell**. Hope you both are doing well! **Jordan and Katrina Briones**, we miss seeing you too. We know you are busy with those three young children! **Nan Arkwright** you are missed too. **Brandon Bell** and **Christina Sutinen-Gonzales**, we know you are both busy, but miss seeing you. **Gianni Givogri**, what have you been up to? **Jan Gabe**, we are missing you and hope your hubby is doing well too. Let us know! **Carol Gallagher**, it was good to see you back after your injury during the indoor tournament. **Rachel Lafield** was back too!

Gary and Joan Grealis we hope to see you now that the weather is warmer! We heard **Jim Heich** pulled his Achilles this week! Sure hope you are ok Jim! Darn! **Steve Hutnick** we hope you thumb and hand are better from your ski accident! **Bill Marsh**, miss playing with you! **Kelly Morgan**, where have you been? **Bob Walgren**, we hope those treatments are over soon and you are back on the courts. Good to see **John Brophy** back after stem cell knee work.

Elaine Hennessy, it was such a surprise to see you back on the court, drilling. So happy you are recovering. It was nice to catch up with your hubby, **Kevin** today too! Glad your lives are getting back to pickleball. You have been missed.

It is always nice to see **Darryl Hoh** when he gets a chance to play. And **Lori Tokutomi** was back visiting, from her home in Hawaii. It was so nice to catch up and go to lunch with **her and Pat Chung** and **Robert "Robo" Pearson** and **Cedric DeVries**, and **Teresa Wenzel** and we ran into **Tim Tamura**! He is doing great but really misses pickleball. We miss the "**Panda**" too. Such a fun lunch catching up with everyone and Cedric has the best stories and comments! I always smile listening to him!

News from Rossmoor

We just heard that our Club Founder, **Bill Dougherty and his wife Joan** will be moving! They will be closer to their son, up near Sacramento, in Auburn. They were honored with a **Lifetime Membership to the Rossmoor Pickleball Club** which he founded in **2009**. Our club was formed from that club in 2015 when the membership grew larger. There was a nice write up in the Rossmoor News along with a picture of them with the RPC Board. **It just won't be the same without Bill and Joan and their dog Ivey**, coming to play at Rudgear. We are all indebted to Bill for this club and all his hard work and volunteering for many many years. We honored the Dougherty's at last years 10th Anniversary Summer Party **Thank you Bill and Joan!**

Foodie Heaven

Rusty Lent brings the cookies and a large can of peanuts for the "Peanut Gallery" as he tells you.. Then **Teresa Wenzel** brings her salmon spread and crackers. Someone brought dog treats! We started off the month of February with a 49er cake that **Teresa Wenzel** brought to enjoy. **Rich and Gail Zavala** brought the best oranges from their trees. **Kim Bouffard** brought Banana Bread and grapes. **Rusty** brought more cookies and cake. **Kim Bouffard** brought her Oatmeal raisin pecan, breakfast food. Yum! **Teresa** brought a gourmet trail mix. **Dick and Lynn Hildebrand** brought oranges from their trees in Geyserville. **Teresa Wenzel** brought artichoke dip galore. **Rusty** was back with watermelon and candy bars! Sweet! **Kris Hunter** brought guacamole and chips. **Cheri Kirschenheuter** brought beautiful tomatoes. **Maggie Hochfelder** brought chocolate covered macadamia nut clusters and I missed out on those! Spinach dip another day by **Teresa**. **Rich and Gail Zavala** nice large, beautiful lemons and **Maggie Hochfelder** brought apple strudel and **Rusty** brought watermelon all in one day! More mixed fruit and watermelon and peanuts from **Rusty**! **Laurie Savage** brought some Lindt white chocolates the other day. Today, **Rusty** brought my favorite lemon bars, **Teresa Wenzel** brought some See's chocolate truffles and her lemon cheesecake bars!

We certainly use our picnic tables and love that we can sit and catch up a bit between games and enjoy all the above! All good!!

Join the USAPA

This is the organization that governs our sport, **United States of America Pickleball Association**. The yearly membership is not much and you get online newsletters every other month, about the most recent developments in paddles or new gear. You get to see results from the big tournaments and find out about the new rules of the game. Lots and lots of information. The website is great too. Check it out.

Website and Facebook

Don't forget to check out our website for links to other organizations affiliated with pickleball. You can read past newsletter or watch teaching videos, if you are new to the club. **Pasko Varnica** does a great job and we are happy to have him as our Webmaster. You can send pictures or info to our Facebook page too.

Save the Date - May 5th

The **Annual Membership Meeting** will be held on May 5th and we will have a fun play day event after the short meeting to celebrate **Cinco de Mayo!** Keep an eye out! Our Social Director, **Danielle Lucking** will let you know the details.

Many Thanks from the Board

We may forget to say thank you to all of our members for supporting our club all these many years. Thank you for donating money and balls and food. Thank you for donating your time to help us repair things around the courts. Thank you for donating your time for Community Service

Days. Thank you for coming and playing every day, driving over the bridges, putting up with traffic and tolls, to come and join all of us to play this great game we all love playing!

Trust In Education

I went to **Budd MacKenzie's** Packing Party last year. He collects warm clothing for all the women and children and men of Afghanistan. He provides educational, economic and health care to the Afghan families. He has built schools with computers and so much more for all these families in need. With the cold winters, the clothing is very important. Once the packing party in Lafayette, sorts all the boxes and boxes of clothing that has been donated for a year, piling up on Budd's porch and everywhere else at his home, it is placed in new boxes and labeled and shipped on pallets by the Air Force.

There were many attempts to pick up the multiple pallets but, first, they were not on the list. Then the very bad weather stopped all attempts to get them to their final destination. Finally, they brought the men to the location where the clothing was available, but they found the men would not use all the wonderful items, they just wanted to sell them. Finally, they brought the women and children who, thoughtfully, shopped and picked the clothing their families needed.

Budd told me that he also scored a very large donation from a shop that closed, **1,500 coats!** Great items to keep these survivors, of their war torn country alive and warmer in the winter.

Trust in Education, quite a good organization. I don't know how Budd manages to get it done year after year!. What a wonderful thing to give.... education and life. Amazing.