



PickleBlast

January 2020 PickleBlast

It's almost here. The Grand Opening of the GVR Pickleball Center is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 28, 2020. Come and join us in this celebration of what we collectively have accomplished in partnership with GVR, the GVR Foundation, and the Greater Green Valley Community Foundation. It will be a day to remember!

What's in this PickleBlast?

GVRPC Board Meeting Highlights

GVR Pickleball Center update

Welcome New Members

Member Rating Changes

Interview with Dean Beilke

Call For Nominations

Membership Renewals

Observations

GVRPC Board Meeting Highlights

- Update on pickleball center and new courts
- Nominating Committee - still looking for nominees (see below)
- Education Committee report on expanded classes once new courts are operational
- GVR Director elections - Candidate bios to be requested and published to club
- Membership renewals (see below)
- GV Foundation Games tournament in 2021

GVR Pickleball Center update

Fencing and gates are up, nets and posts are installed and the courts have been painted. Walkways and parking lots to be completed in the next two weeks. Grand Opening is scheduled for Tuesday January 28 at 9:00 a.m. Carpool as much as you can to reduce traffic and parking issues.

Welcome New Members! (December)

Jim Albers	Smiley and John Armstrong	Craig Barnes	John Beers
Britt-Marie Berntsson	Jerry Brown	Kevin Carroll	Glen Carwell
Aryn Duncan	Jeff Frider	Julie and James Gish	Cher Hager
Gary Lingenfelter	Dianne Martin	Angie Mason	Joyce Peppel
Sue and Rudy Rudolph	Sue Toeniskoetter		

Congrats to Members with New Ratings! (December)

Moved to 2.5:		
Moved to 3.0:	Robert Kontz	Cindy White
Moved to 3.5:	James Gish	Dale Thibodeau
Moved to 4.0:	Brad Dubuc	Blake Iserman
Moved to 4.5:		

Interview with Dean Beilke

Today in the PickleBlast studios, we have one of our club volunteers - Dean Beilke. Dean manages our club website and is the administrator for SignUp Genius, the application we use to register for everything from social events to Round Robins to instructional classes and clinics. That responsibility alone is a large commitment, as we have a constant stream of opportunities for our club members. Let's listen in to learn about the details.

[PickleBlast]: Thanks for taking some time to talk to us today, Dean. For our members who may not know you, tell us about your background, how you came to Green Valley, and how you discovered the game of pickleball.

[Dean Beilke]: I'm an Electrical Engineer specializing in computer systems engineering. I worked at several companies with the bulk of my career at 3M as an Engineer and R&D Department Manager. When we were looking for a retirement location we gravitated to southern Arizona and ended up in Green Valley. We had some friends talk about Pickleball so during our first stays in Green Valley we took the introductory class. Hooked!

[PB]: You have contributed in so many areas behind the scenes for our club. You are our webmaster, an important voice on our court schedules committee, and provide the non-ending administration of SignUp Genius. As a club, where should we be looking to improve our registration process and the information we provide through the website?

[DB]: SignUp Genius is certainly a key, integral component enabling us to offer signups for many social and play events. While it can be challenging at times, it does work. In the future we are looking at tighter integration with the club membership database and SignUp Genius. We are also looking at integration with the GVR member database to provide an improved registration process. Currently, there are plans to offer some competitive league play events when the 24 courts open that will require applications functionality beyond what SignUp Genius can provide.

[PB]: What additional challenges do you foresee in these areas with the opening of the GVR Pickleball Center this month?

[DB]: The biggest challenge will be to integrate the three venues together to ensure that they effectively provide a fun and challenging environment for everyone to enjoy pickleball. That includes players that are new, seasoned, and competitive. During the initial rollout period, everyone needs to be patient. There will more than likely be adjustments made to better fit court usage.

[PB]: What can we as club members and website users do to make your job easier?

[DB]: The website is frequently updated with relevant, timely information all year long. It is designed so that users can find what they are most likely looking for right on the home page. Whether it is the court schedule, ordering a name tag or club jacket, or getting to the SignUp Genius page, you don't have to navigate several web pages to get to it. If you need an old PickleBlast or board meeting minutes you can find that as well, just not on the home page. For those of you spending part of the year someplace other than Green Valley, you should make a point of occasionally checking the website to see what is going on in Green Valley.

[PB]: Thanks Dean for taking some time to speak with us today and sharing about what you do. We so appreciate the hours you dedicate to presenting our club with the most up-to-date and accurate information, using your unique skills.

Call For Nominations

Our club board will have four vacancies in 2020: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Member At Large. Our Nominating Committee has not yet received nominations for the majority of these positions, but must receive them before March 3. If you would like to self-nominate or nominate someone else, please do so after confirming that they are willing to serve. Contact our Nominating Committee for more information:

Becky Lupo	blupomx@gmail.com	520.841.1951
Brenda Russell	pretzelroll@yahoo.com	916.261.4445
Donna Talarski	nanner1234@yahoo.com	314.607.6929

Membership Renewals

If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2020, consider doing it now. Our club finances are stretched, as we've contributed all of our reserves to build 24 courts but there are still expenses for the small things that make playing enjoyable. Such as pickleballs. Can you imagine how boring a game is without pickleballs? Renew today to continue to be a part of all of the activities we talked about with Dean Beilke in today's interview. And, you must renew no later than March 1 to attend the Annual Meeting and vote on board members and bylaw revisions. Here's the [membership renewal application](#). Please pay by check, as cash payments present a myriad of complications for our club leadership.

Observations

- Need one of those jazzy pickleball name tags? You can order them through our website [here](#). Please use this page only for orders. Putting an order in the club mailbox or including with dues payments doesn't get the info to the right people.

- We're looking for someone to take charge of providing pictures of new members. If you can help to coordinate providing these pictures to those who create the member profiles, it would be a big help. Just reply to this email and indicate that you're willing to help.

- Coming soon! On February 11, our club is hosting instructional clinics for intermediate and advanced players with Scott Moore. Scott is regarded as the #1 male senior player in the world and provides a very intensive educational experience. There will be two sessions, with each limited to 16 participants, so watch for the announcement that registration is open in the very near future.

Celebration of Life

Join us for a Celebration of Life for Bob Bartlett on February 1 at Grace Church of Sahuarita 11 a.m. Patty has requested that all club members who can attend come and share memories and comments about Bob. We were blessed to have the opportunity to share time with Bob on the courts and want to honor his memory and his family through this event.

In Closing - If you have a suggestion, comment, or a question, let us know - preferably by email - as discussions on the court sometimes (actually quite frequently) get lost or forgotten. And let us know if you find this newsletter helpful. Use the GVR Pickleball Club website (<http://www.gvrpickleball.org>) to contact us.

That's all for now folks.....stay positive, keep smiling, and enjoy playing!!!!



Jeff Harrell, President