



PickleBlast

June/July 2017 PickleBlast

Hi all and welcome to the latest **PickleBlast**. Happy 4th of July with picnics, fireworks, and pickleball! Kudos to those of you summering (or simmering?) in Green Valley. We still have a good group getting together at the courts to play early and late in the day and no waiting!

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GVR Pickleball Center update

The Pickleball subcommittee and GVR staff have been meeting with a commercial realtor to identify and research potential sites for the new Pickleball Center. As you might imagine, there are several potential sites but factors such as proximity to existing homes, cost, and the characteristics of each site are being evaluated.

Website Updates

- As you all know, wind can be a significant factor when playing outside. So, we have added a feature to the home page on the right side, just above the temperature box for wind conditions. You can see the forecasted wind speeds, as well as the live data.
- Also on the home page, take a moment and hit the link for [What to do for Heat-Related Illness](#). This is critical information for those of us playing in the desert heat, but is applicable to any location when conditions are warm.
- [PickleballCentral.com](#) has established a rewards program for all purchases through their website. If you use the discount code "CRGreenValley" at checkout, you receive a 5% discount on your purchases and they contribute another 5% of the amount to our club. You can get all of the details here.

Are you playing in tournament play this summer and want the world to know about your prowess and medal-winning efforts? Go to our [club Facebook page](#) and post your pics! Or, just let us know how your summer is going.

Welcome New Members! (May/June)

Gary Beatty	John Brookheart	Rebecca and Carlos Garcia	Michael Weston
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Interview with Louise Bouck

Our special guest today is Louise Bouck, past treasurer and active volunteer with our club. She has won multiple medals in local and regional pickleball tournaments and is a great ambassador for the game.

[PickleBlast]: Welcome to the PickleBlast studios, Louise. You have been an important part of our club for several years. Please tell us about your background, how you came to Green Valley, and how you discovered the game of pickleball.

[Louise Bouck]: My husband and I are from Michigan. After attending Central Michigan University, my husband Will joined the Navy. This was the time when the draft was in full effect and also during the Vietnam War. After graduating from Officer Candidate School, Will was assigned to "Fighter Town USA" (Miramar Naval Air Station) located in San Diego. My duties as an officer's wife were to support my husband's career and raise our daughters (this was emphasized strongly by the Navy). After some time, my husband encouraged me to seek my own career path. So, I became a legal assistant and worked in that field for 14 years.

After retirement from the Navy, we moved to Michigan to be with elderly parents. I worked as an Executive Secretary for the Amway Corp. I always refer to my work as a "paper pusher!" After official retirement, we spent our winters in Green Valley since that was where my parents would spend a couple of months. In 2011 we decided to buy a home in Green Valley. Soon, I was introduced to Pickleball, and to tell you the truth, I love the game. Most of all, I love the people we have met. They are from all walks of life and are terrific, supportive people.

[PB]: As you well know, our club is faced with significant challenges as we try to manage our ever-increasing number of players in Green Valley and work towards obtaining more courts, while also providing the best experience we can to our experienced players and those just starting the sport. What do you see as the most important things our club can do to achieve these goals?

[LB]: I think our club leadership is moving in the right direction. With the continual increase in membership, we have had to work hard to fill the needs of all of our members. Our introduction classes and follow up skills and drills classes are popular and very well thought out by our leaders. Thanks to our education team, we are beginning to meet the needs of the members, but our major challenge is available courts during peak season. Our challenges with this have met with opposition almost every step of the way. We do need a facility to handle our club needs, but in addition I feel we could move forward with a facility that would bring visitors to the area for tournament play. I would like to see the Senior Games be played at a GVR facility rather than having to rely on Quail Creek. I think as a club, we are very grateful to Quail Creek for their invitations to join them on many given days and nights.

[PB]: You are well known for your positive attitude and great sense of humor. What is the funniest or strangest thing you have seen on the pickleball courts in Green Valley?

[LB]: Wow, how do I answer that? I think as a sidebar to this, I must say, that the laughter, the kidding and the fun-filled individuals just make the moments special. Every now and then, we will be playing and music will kick out and bring just

wonderful moments of dancing on the court while playing. My favorite song, introduced by a very special individual is "I Feel Lucky". That sums it up.

[PB]: Louise, thanks for sharing your thoughts with us and for contributing so much to our club. Stepping outside of the PickleBlast editor role for a moment, I am particularly grateful for your guidance and advice as a Board member and a friend. Thank you.

Observations

- Inter-community (IC) Play has been very successful so far this summer with most sessions filling up completely by both GVR and non-GVR players. Comments have been overwhelmingly positive and we anticipate more of the same for the next couple of months.
- It's a little late coming, but thanks to **Dean Barnes** for resolving a problem with SIMON the ball machine this spring. Once again Dean has managed to restore SIMON to a functional state.
- As our numbers on the courts in the summer in Green Valley dwindle, several of our advanced skill players are joining and playing with those who normally play in lower skill groups. It's great to see some of our advanced skill players taking the time and effort to provide coaching and mentoring spontaneously in this environment. That's something that stays with a developing player for a long time. Thank you.
- The response and support from you for two of our members - Ralph Feldt and Ron Woodrow, have been nothing short of amazing. They and their families are grateful for everything that has been said and done and your actions once again demonstrate that our club is not just about the sport but it's about the people.

Upcoming Events

We are already beginning preparations for next high season in Green Valley. Here are some of the topics we're working on over the summer:

- Temporary courts: We are working with GVR staff to identify and get commitments for temporary court space to accommodate overflow for orientation, instruction, and possibly focus play. In obtaining temporary courts last year, we learned more about how we can collaborate with others in the area to take a little pressure off our regular courts and yet still provide for those wanting to learn about the game.
- Volunteer opportunities: Our descriptions of club volunteer positions have been updated and posted [here](#). We encourage you to look through this and consider volunteering to help in those areas where you have expertise or interest. There is simply no shortage of opportunities to help. If you would like to participate but aren't sure where, contact a Board member and let us know.
- Court resurfacing: Courts 1-7 at the East Center have been resurfaced and are now open again for play. There is some additional work to be done on courts 1-3 but that schedule has not yet been released.

Member Directory

The Member Directory button on the home page of our website will take you to a password protected list of current members. We receive a lot of requests for that password, which is "1965". As the directory information recording used to say, "Please make a note of it."

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, GVR Pickleball