

# WICKS

JANUARY 2012

## PALO ALTO LAWN BOWLS CLUB

### PRESIDENT

Ginger Harris

### VICE PRESIDENT

David Hale

### TREASURER

Frank Matyskiela

### SECRETARY

Linda Flores

### DIRECTORS

John Quackenbush

Christine Stafford

Jane Stender

Ken Torke

Jon Yee

Pedro Zalbidea

### WICKS EDITOR

David Hale

### WINTER HOURS

Wednesday, 10:00 am

Tuesday, Thursday,

Saturday, and Sunday

1:15 pm

### CONTACT

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Palo Alto, CA 94301

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www.palbc.org

## Fred Hawley, Good Guy

We all know Fred as the guy who's always there — bowling, watching, rooting for the underdog, offering congratulations, and making some totally unbelievable shots! He is also a past-president, a multiple-tournament winner, a poet, philosopher, and frequent contributor to *Wicks*. Fred is a quiet contributor, there to help set up, clean up, ready



*At the annual meeting, President Ginger Harris presented Fred Hawley with the well deserved Good Guy award.*

the rinks for games, often without being asked and never looking for recognition. He's a staunch supporter of our club members, and frequently a one-man cheering squad at tournament finals. A mentor and encourager of new members, he's a good friend to all. Fred is our official 2012 Good Guy!

## 2011 Annual Meeting

The holiday spirit was alive and well at our 2011 Annual General Membership meeting and Holiday Tea. Decorations adorned the clubhouse, and well over 90 members showed up in their festive attire to greet friends and recap the successful year at PALBC.

Guests Karen Kinzle and artist Judith Selby Lang gave a short presentation about the collaboration between the PALBC and the Palo Alto Art Center, thanking the club for its support.

Each of the 2011 Board members gave a recap of activities during the year. A huge

“THANK YOU!” to all of our Board members who work so diligently to keep our club strong and in good condition.

David Hale reported that we had won the Cable Car Classic (San Francisco), the Sunnyvale Shield, and the “*We Lost the Meat Axe*” (Berkeley) awards in inter-club play.

Penny Bayless announced a lucrative year in club rentals, bringing in additional funds for the club, and thanked those members who had volunteered to coach or help in other ways during those events.

Pedro Zalbidea showed the new memorial bench honoring Mike Ashworth, and highlighted some of the building improvements that had been made during the year.

Jon Yee, our recycling and supply guy shared that we made over \$90 by recycling plastic and glass bottles!

Frank Matyskiela presented the financial report — our finances are sound — and reminded members that dues for 2012 now need to be paid.



*Thank you to Betsy Young, Linda Flores, E.B. Parkell, Jane Stender, Candice Bushell, and Ann Walker for presenting us with a table of wonderful treats.*

Jane Stender gave a recap of the social events and announced the first get-together for 2012, a Games Night on January 21.

Ken Torke announced that we had 161 members during 2011, and asked for a moment of silence for eight members who passed away during the year.

*(continued)*

## Annual Meeting *(continued)*

Bud Birkenseer, club tournament director, presented special hand-made trophies or a voucher to our 2011 club tournament winners. Check out the Championship Board to see their names!

(One of our favorite long-time members, Glenn Stewart, stood to proclaim that even with his best efforts, he had not ever won a tournament, but he was *not* giving up and expected to be handed one of Bud's trophies...soon! We're cheering for you, Glenn!)

Ginger thanked Peter Danner for continuing to share interesting historical tidbits from the archives, Grace Griffiths for her role as chair of the Health and Safety Committee, Roberta Durham for her care of our planters, Terry Hogan for being our Sunshine Guy, John Hickson for leading the coaching and being our liaison with the City of Palo Alto, and to all members who supported the club's activities and continue to keep our club strong.

Many of our members bought raffle tickets to support the US Open Tournament held in September. Our bowlers came home with some major prizes at the Open and others won a jack or a measure in our own raffle held at the end of our meeting for those who helped us sell all our allotted tickets.

Bonny Turner presented the slate of officers for 2012, and Don Hughes quickly called to close the nominations and take a vote! Most officers will be returning, but, from President Ginger Harris' special end of the year poem:

*'Although it is time for some (Penny and Bud) to move on,  
we're thrilled to be welcoming Christine, Linda and John!*

*Your Board was hard-working, a reliable crew,  
there was no shortage of helpers when there was  
something to do.*

*Thanks to David and Frank, to Jon and to Penny,  
and also to Bud, Jane, Pedro, and Kenny!*

*So, as we move on into 20-one-two,  
there will be tournaments, socials and some work projects, too.*

*Let's each do our part to keep our club rolling...  
health and friendship to all, and to all...  
GOOD BOWLING!"*

The next General Membership meeting will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2012. Mark your calendars.

## Join Our Active Team

While the City of Palo Alto maintains the green, surrounds, and exterior of the building, our club is operated entirely by member volunteers. We encourage you to become involved in an activity or committee.

Listed below are the committee chairpersons which is followed by a list of activities that need additional volunteers. You may wish to volunteer in some capacity where you have expertise or

interest. If so, please let us know where you could offer assistance by reviewing the items below and contacting a committee chairperson or a member of the Board. We would be delighted to work with you.

### Committee Chairpersons

*Membership:* Frank Matyskiela

*Hospitality:* Jane Stender and Ken Torke

*Tournaments (intraclub):* Bud Birkenseer

*Tournaments (interclub):* David Hale

*House and grounds:* Pedro Zalbidea

*Coaching:* John Hickson, Terry Hogan, and Alan Bushell

*Clubhouse and Bowling supplies:* Jon Yee

*Beverages:* Jon Yee

*Wicks Editor:* David Hale

*Wicks mailing:* John Quackenbush

*Event invitations and responses:* Penny Bayless

*Sunshine:* Terry Hogan

*Website:* Ken Torke

*City liaison:* John Hickson

*Facilities rentals:* Penny Bayless and Christine Stafford

*First aid/health:* Grace Griffiths

*Club Historian:* Peter Danner

*Draw Masters:* Sam Hebert and Frank Matyskiela

*Planter and Garden watering:* Roberta Durham

*PIMD Representative:* Frank Matyskiela

We are looking for additional volunteers for:

*Hospitality Support*

*Marketing/Publicity*

## New Members

**Roy Ebbel**

**Joanne Ferguson**

**David Hetherington**

**Bill Marzonie**

**Krishna Sudhir**

## What's Happening at PALBC

### Happy New Year

Our club Tournament Director (who also happens to hold that position for our PIMD division), Bud Birkenseer, has been busy working with representatives from the other clubs to schedule the 2012 PIMD tournaments. Palo Alto will be hosting a couple of those events this year. Once that schedule has been confirmed, we will set our own Palo Alto tournaments and social events. If you have suggestions for social events please contact Jane Stender or Ken Torke. Your ideas are welcome!

There will be lots of great bowling opportunities in 2012, so take advantage of this time of the year to enjoy weekly bowling in our draw games and keep improving your skills.

### Art Outreach

We are proud to host the Palo Alto Art Center during its ProjectLOOK! field trip sessions in our clubhouse on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm beginning on January 31 and continuing until April 30. Their activities will be held in the main room, so our regular T/Th

afternoon draw games can proceed as usual. Please use the door to the small room to access the draw board. Thank you all for your cooperation during this exciting time.

### Giant Lawn Bowls

The opening reception for the Judith Selby Lang *On the Road* installation will be held at our club on February 4 at 2:00 pm. Our draw games will start at noon on that Thursday so those at the reception can watch a little bowling.

Also, we will be hosting a group of 15 high school students from East Side Prep in East Palo Alto on Thursday, February 9 around 4:00 pm. They helped create some of the lawn bowls for the project, and will come over after school to see the installed display.

They would like to try some lawn bowling while they are here and we need a few club members to help out with this activity. If you're interested and available, please let Ginger know. Thanks!

### Senior Games

In cooperation with the Bay Area Senior Games, we will again host the lawn bowling competition. Registration is open to all bowlers over 50, and we are hoping for a full green of partici-

## In the Umpire's View



### Resolutions

It's only the second week of January and I've already broken one of my two New Year's resolutions. The other one remains to be seen. I've "resolved to play in more tournaments this year."

On January 7th, the PIMD Tournament Scheduling Committee met to set the tournaments for the year. Within days, the local clubs meet and schedule their tournaments, hopefully skirting around the PIMD dates.

I've resolved to play in more tournaments and I hope everyone else does the same. Especially the novices. A novice is one who has bowled for less than two years from the date of the home club's certification. (PIMD Rules and Regulations, 2011)

I've talked to many novices about tournaments and often they respond with the fact that they haven't been asked to play in a team tournament or are worried that they are too inexperienced to sign up for a singles event.

To the novices, I say, it's time to get your feet wet. If a "team" tournament is coming up, let the experienced players know you are interested in playing in it. Perhaps post a note on the bulletin board expressing your interest. When you have some spare time, come out to the club and practice. Playing a social game is great fun and good experience, but practicing is even better to help hone your new skills. Don't get disheartened if you aren't asked to play in a team tournament right away. It will happen and by playing often and practicing, as your game gets better, you will start to find that you are in demand.

To the experienced players, I say, let's resolve to ask these new players to play in a tournament with us. Not just in the club's "draw pairs," but for the "team pairs," as well. If not in a tournament, why not just take a novice "under your wing?" Show them the best way to practice and how to roll the jack to the length wanted and down the center of the rink. Teach them the rules and etiquette of the game and hand signals used during the game.

By mentoring the newer players, we are improving their play and helping to keep members interested in coming back for more games and tournaments.

### Just for Novices

There will be a PALBC Novice Singles Tournament sometime this year. Check the new schedule when it comes out and think about joining in on the fun of a tournament. PIMD also conducts a Novice Singles Tournament and you will find the date and venue of that also on the PIMD schedule.

For tournaments, you do have to wear whites (or colored club shirts), shirts with collars and any length of sleeve. If wearing shorts, they should be no shorter than three inches above the knee. Be on time so as to not hold up the starting time. Bring your lunch and have a great day on the green.

If you have any questions (or hesitations), please feel free to contact any of the USLBA Umpires and we will be more than happy to help you.

I think that you will find that tournaments are great fun and good experience. I predict that within a couple of years, you will find yourself asking a novice to play in a tournament with *you*.

— E.B. Parkell

pants. See a more detailed description of the event elsewhere in this issue of *Wicks* or contact Terry Hogan with questions.

### Games Night Returns!

The first social event of the year is our ever popular annual winter games party. A menu of Italian Meat Ball Sandwiches, Coleslaw, Polenta, and Gelato will be provided by our hosts, Bill and Janelle Coleman. There will even be a classic Italian cocktail from our house mixicologist, Ken Torke.

Last year's games night was a smashing success with rousing tables of Pinochle, Euchre, and Canasta. If you don't play cards, bring your favorite board games...or maybe even darts!

Put your name in for the draw by 2:15, with bowling at 2:30. Dinner follows around 5:00. Dinner is \$6, beer and sodas are a \$1 donation, and wine is a \$2 donation. See you there!

### PIMD News

We will be hosting the first PIMD quarterly meeting on Sunday, January 29 beginning at 9:30 am. At this meeting, PIMD representatives from all clubs meet to conduct the business of our division.

Many of those attending bring their bowls and enjoy a game after the meeting. There will be plenty of room for our Sunday club draw, so come out and meet some of your fellow bowlers from around the area.

### Our 2012 PIMD Officers

*President:* Greg Fyvie (PA)

*Vice-president:* Mary Scott (SJ)

*Treasurer:* Alex Xavier (SF)

*Secretary:* Ginger Harris (PA)

*Tournament Director:* Bud Birkenseer (PA)

### PALBC CALENDAR

#### January

- 21 Draw Games, 2:30 pm. Bowling will be followed by a warm dinner and games night.
- 29 PIMD quarterly meeting at PALBC, 9:30 am.

#### February

- 4 Judith Selby Lang *On the Road* installation opening reception, 2:00 pm, PALBC. Draw games at noon.
- 11 President's Cup Invitational, Laguna Woods LBC. Saturday and Sunday.
- 11 South Central Open in Sun City, AZ. Saturday through Thursday.

#### March

- 10 PALBC Men's Draw Pairs. Registration from 8:30 am, draw at 9:00 am.
- 17 Opening day. Rossmoor LBC.
- 20 Bay Area Senior Games, PALBC. Pairs and triples, Tuesday through Friday.
- 24 PALBC Mixed Draw Pairs. Registration from 8:30 am, draw at 9:00 am.
- 31 PALBC Men's Team Pairs. Registration from 8:30 am, draw at 9:00 am.



## Coach's Corner

### "Winter Blues"

January is a time when many of us feel like staying indoors by a warm fire and with the heating on.

However, this year the afternoons have been beautiful and it is warmer out than in! So why not chase the "blues" away. Get out of your chair and come down to the club to enjoy some fresh air, exercise and a good game of bowls. With the bermuda dormant, the green is bowling well so don't miss out, join the fun!

If anyone is feeling "rusty" and needs a refresher session, please call me, 650-367-9499, to arrange a day and time. If I am not available, Terry Hogan or Alan Bushell would be happy to help.

— John Hickson

### A Good Winter Read

Looking for some interesting reading? Visit one or more of these great web sites to see what is going on in the world of lawn bowling:

[www.palbc.org](http://www.palbc.org)

[www.pimdlawnbowls.org](http://www.pimdlawnbowls.org)

[www.uslba.org](http://www.uslba.org)

### Membership Dues Request

Finally, please help the treasurer by sending in your dues as soon as possible (if you have not yet done so) as we have to report our membership to PIMD by late January.

If you are not planning to renew, please drop an email to Frank Matyskiela, [frankmaty@aim.com](mailto:frankmaty@aim.com), and let us know why.

## The Food Bank Thanks You



Thank you and congratulations to our PALBC members for donating over 200 pounds of goods to our local Food Bank.

## Art and Big Bowls from Plastic Bags

We have several art projects going on at the club.

First, the City of Palo Alto selected Judith Selby Lang to create an art installation on the lawn between our green and Embarcadero. She's working with the community to make giant lawn bowls from plastic strips to both celebrate our sport and bring attention to the environmental problems associated with single use plastic bags. There is one more opportunity to participate in the construction on January 21, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at the Lucie Stern Center (right before Games Night).

The official installation opening will be on February 4, from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. We will move our draw time to 12:00 pm that day so that there will still be games going on as people are gathering for the reception. We'll finish up about the time the formal reception activities are started. Once the formal activities have concluded there will be bowling again in case some of those attending want to give our sport a try.

Second, as you have read, Palo Alto has asked that we let the Art Center use our club house to conduct ProjectLOOK! art classes for a few months while their building is refurbished. We are proud to be a part of this community outreach.

They will be here from January 31 through April from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. They will store a small amount of supplies at the club, use only the main room, and provide cleaning services. The refrigerator will be locked while there are students in the clubhouse, but can be opened for refreshments once the field trip sessions are completed. We understand that this will be a bit inconvenient for the club but appreciate that the City provides us a wonderful home and we help when we can.

Third, we'll be having a second annual Member's Art Show this May. Watch for more news and start working on your portfolio!

## Being a Good Guy

Whoops! Every time I try to type Good Guy it comes out Goof Guy.

I certainly have goofed up many things but even that has not been enough to overcome your kindness and generosity of spirit. I thank you most profoundly. You have brought the best in me.

I now know I can hold up and play a whole tournament so I will be there. Watch out!

— *Best wishes, Fred Hawley*

## Preacher's Corner

Recently, we have found doors left unlocked at the club. Will the last person leaving the club please check to make sure that:

- the heater is turned off
- all interior lights are turned off
- all doors are securely locked and not just closed
- both outside gates are locked.

### IN MEMORIAM

## Dan Rehor



Dan moved to Palo Alto with his wife, Lois, to pursue a PhD in education at Stanford, but decided to devote himself to his two young sons, Charlie and Bill.

Dan was a counselor and history teacher at Homestead High School until his retirement, was active in Charlie's Boy Scout troop, and served as treasurer for the Friends of the Palo Alto Children's Theater where Bill spent many years. He was a long-time volunteer naturalist at the Palo Alto Baylands Interpretive Center, an avid bird watcher and talented watercolorist.

Dan loved lawn bowling and could often be found on the green practicing before the games, trying to perfect his skills. He was known for his friendliness, kindness, and gentlemanliness and will be missed by all who knew him.

## Richard Wheeler

Richard was a longtime resident of California and was involved professionally in art for over 45 years as a painter, mural artist, and illustrator.

He discovered lawn bowling in 2008, and became an instant fan. He once said that watching a game was one of the most peaceful and relaxing activities he had ever experienced. He was a member of both the Berkeley and the Palo Alto clubs, and truly enjoyed the friends he made in his short time with us. A generous man, he donated two of his beautiful paintings to be raffled in support of both the US Open and the Palo Alto club.

## 2012 Senior Games

As we have in the past three years, Palo Alto is hosting the Lawn Bowling Division, triples and pairs, of the 2012 Bay Area Senior Games on our green.

The 12 triples teams will play on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 20 and 21. Opponents will be picked by draw ahead of time. After Tuesday games are complete, the teams will be divided into Gold, Silver, and Bronze brackets based on points.

The 16 pairs teams will play on Thursday and Friday, March 22 and 23. The 16 teams will be divided into four brackets by draw. One team will come out of each bracket the winner. These four teams will return for the finals on Friday.

We anticipate a full field. You may call or email Terry Hogan (650 329-9098 or etelhogan@att.net) to register individually or as a team. The entry fee is \$25 per person for either tournament or \$35 for both.