

WICKS

MARCH 2024

PALO ALTO LAWN BOWLS CLUB

PRESIDENT

Ian Harris

VICE PRESIDENT

Jon Yee

TREASURER

Rob Mori

SECRETARY

Ginger Harris

DIRECTORS

Peter Danner

Sam Hebert

Marybeth Fox

Dave Simpson

PIMD REPRESENTATIVES

Frank Matyskiela

Marion Darton

WICKS EDITOR

David Hale

WINTER HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday,

Saturday, 1:00 pm.

Sunday, 1:30 pm.

CONTACT

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The weather was chilly and there was little bowling activity on the green but games tables were full. "Championships" were awarded in the various card and number games and everyone went home with a smile.

An Afternoon of Fun and Games

It was great to see a good number of our members show up to enjoy each other's company on a cool January afternoon. The weather was iffy, so there was not much activity on the green, but inside where it was warm, the afternoon games were in full swing!

And "full swing" is an understatement to say the least. The piano that sits quietly in the corner was far from quiet that day. Alan Bernstein, much to our delight, delivered an impromptu



A delicious presentation of hot baked potatoes and all the fixings was welcomed on a cold winter evening.

concert of show tunes, sing-along favorites and other popular tunes from years gone by.

While enjoying some background music, those attending were fully involved in games of 99 (a new card game), UpWords, Hearts, Rummikub and the ever-popular Crazy Eights. From the laughter and smiles, it was evident that fun was the order of the day.

The games ended with "officially" unofficial champions: Nadine O'Leary—crazy eights and 99; Kevin O'Leary—hearts; Jane (John Hickson's daughter visiting from England) goes home the Rummikub champ of PALBC; Albert Tam—UpWords. Congratulations to all!

People enjoyed the baked potato bar with a variety of toppings, just what was needed on a dreary day. Of course, a big thank you is due to the members who helped set up, clean up and close up without hesitation. It's one thing that makes our club special.

If anyone would like to host another social afternoon, please get in touch with Ginger Harris peacecorps.ginger@gmail.com.

San Jose Winter League

Four of our Palo Alto members braved the elements to participate in the Winter League sponsored by the San Jose LBC. San Jose is our neighboring club with an artificial green, so the game is a bit different from bowling on grass. The delivery is less strenuous, and the route to the jack is usually much more predictable.

Marion Darton, Ginger Harris, Rose Selby and Ian Harris braved three weeks of temperamental winter weather in order to be out on the green doing what they enjoy—lawn bowling.

Although none of them brought home prize money this year, all of them enjoyed the competition and camaraderie found while in the company of bowlers from a number of other PIMD clubs.

Join Us for PIMD's Opening Day

The official beginning of the PIMD bowling year is Opening Day, scheduled for March 23. This is a celebration of past club presidents and all of the bowlers in all of our Bay Area clubs. It's a chance to mix and mingle with friends and enjoy two, 12-end games of bowls, one in the morning and one after lunch. You will be playing with teams which have been computer generated by our tournament director, Bud Birkenseer. The games will be played at the Rossmoor club in Walnut Creek because they have three greens and can accommodate the large numbers of PIMD members who come to enjoy a day on the green together.

Register individually by putting your name on the signup sheet, along with the position you would like to play (lead, second, or skip) that will be posted on the bulletin board at our clubhouse. Carpools will be arranged for anyone who wants that option. The journey is on a Saturday morning so the traffic is not a big issue. Bring your own lunch, and Rossmoor will provide drinks, light snacks and usually some adult beverages at the end of the day.

This has always been one of the most popular division-wide events, so give it a go! Let's have a strong Palo Alto presence and get our year off to a great start!

The Friendship Games Are Back

The 2024 Friendship Games calendar has been finalized, and there are six fun days upcoming that you can put on your social calendar! These 12-end games are very friendly competitions and open to all skill levels. Each Friendship Game event has morning and afternoon games. You may enter either, or both as fits your desires or schedule.

It is a perfect opportunity to visit our neighboring greens and clubs and to meet some fellow bowlers. In addition, it really helps to create and strengthen our larger bowling community. It generates interest in participating in upcoming club invitations and more competitive events and helps us all build

some momentum for outreach and recruiting for our own clubs. Each hosting club usually has something special to make the day a little different and fun.

The games are scheduled for the second and fourth Wednesdays of April, May and June. Save those dates! The first game is April 10 at the San Jose lawn bowling club, and we host on June 26. The other dates are on a flyer on the bulletin board at the clubhouse. We will also put reminders in upcoming *Wicks* issues.

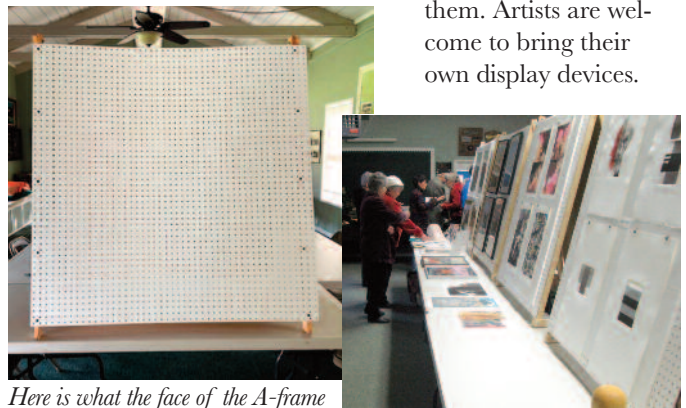
Bring your own lunch, and the hosting club provides drinks and simple snacks during the day. Carpools will be arranged for those interested. Help our Palo Alto club make a good showing at the games to say "thank you" to the hosting clubs for their efforts to make all of us feel welcome.

Upcoming PALBC Art and Handicraft Show

We are looking forward to our members sharing their creative endeavors whether they are paintings, photographs, wood work, ceramics, knittings, quilts, sculpture and carvings, or other works of art.

In addition to tables, that work well for objects, we have four double-sided A-frame pegboard easels (room for eight artists or more if you want to share a side) that you may hang your work on. These easels are about 4' square and you should bring hooks or other devices that allow you to hang your work on

them. Artists are welcome to bring their own display devices.



Here is what the face of the A-frame looks like and an example of their use in our previous PALBC gallery show.

Artists/exhibitors can set up as early as 11:30 am on the 16th. Items being displayed are not recommended to be left unattended. You may put prices on your work if you are interested in selling it.

If you are interested, please sign up with Jon Yee and reserve a exhibit space by March 9. He will need to know your contact information, what you will be exhibiting, and the type of space you will need. If you have questions contact Jon at palbcjon@yahoo.com

The show is just a few weeks away and will be held on March 16 & 17, from 1:00 – 4:00 pm both days in the clubhouse and PALBC will provide light snacks and drinks.

What's Happening at PALBC

Message from the President

As a follow-up to the proposal to replace our natural grass green with an artificial surface, we are assembling a list of costs for maintaining our present green and we'll use those numbers to present to the City a list of savings to them if the change is made. We also plan to emphasize the advantages to the handicapped community who will be able to join us as full participating members in our games on a sturdier bowling surface.

It looks as if the cost will be about \$300,000, based on an estimate we received from an Australian installation company, so we have to do some serious fund-raising. We have not approached the City yet, but we do not think they will be willing to pay for the whole project.

We would welcome anyone who has experience in fundraising to join us, or at least to tell us how to go about this. We also welcome your comments and opinions, both for and against, regarding this project.

And I would like to remind you of our club clean up day on Saturday, March 2. I would be happy to see a good turnout to help sweep away a year's worth of accumulated disarray. We can then look forward to a clean, healthy and organized summer season.

As in the past, volunteers will be treated to coffee and breakfast-time treats before the clean up and a light lunch afterward. Activities will start around 9:00 am.

— President, Ian Harris

Save the Dates

Once the rain stops and we can get back out on the green, there are a number of events you'll want to put on your calendar.

March 2, Cleanup Day— Your help will be appreciated as we give the club a spring cleaning.

March 9, Coaching Clinic— The club coaches will host a Skills and Drills Day to help get us all back in good form after being off the green for too long.

March 16/17, Gallery Day— Come admire the talent of our club members at the Art and Handicrafts Display. Contact Jon Yee (palbcjon@yahoo.com) by March 9 if you'd like to participate.

March 23, PIMD Opening Day— The official opening of the 2024 bowling season here in our Pacific InterMountain Division. Whether you are an experienced or newer bowler, watch for the official announcement and sign-up sheet coming out soon.

April 6, Mixed Draw Triples— This will be our first Club tournament of the year here at Palo Alto. Mixed Draw Triples is the perfect format to involve all of our members from novice to those who have been bowling for years.

April 10, Friendship Games— The popular South Bay Friendship Games, your opportunity to experience other greens in the area, will begin. The first game is hosted by the San Jose LBC. Watch for further details and signup sheets on the bulletin board.



Coach's Corner

In Between the Rain Drops

First, the good news. The green will not be closed this spring, as there was major work carried out in the fall.

So now you can put the winter behind you and get back on the green. I know we have had a lot of rain but the green drains really well and the new seed is germinating, so things are going well.

If you feel the need for some "refresher" coaching, we have coaches waiting to help you. Or you might also like to attend the March 9 Coaching Clinic with it's focus on skills and drills to improve your game.

And you can always contact any of our eight qualified coaches at the club for one or more sessions.

Head Coach, Frank Matyskiela (frankmaty@netscape.net)
Marion Darton (mariondarton136@gmail.com)
Ginger Harris (peacecorps.ginger@gmail.com)
Ian Harris (ian46harris@gmail.com)
Sam Hebert (hebertsj@astound.net)
John Hickson (J.Hickson@sbcglobal.net)
Rose Selby (roseselby918@gmail.com)
Albert Tam (atam99@rocketmail.com)

— John Hickson

PALBC CALENDAR

March

- 2 Annual Club Cleanup Day, Palo Alto LBC.
- 16 Art and Handicraft Show, Palo Alto LBC.
- 23 PIMD President's Recognition and Opening Day, Rossmoor LBC.

April

- 6 PALBC Mixed Draw Triples, Palo Alto LBC.
- 10 Friendship Games, San Jose LBC.
- 13 PIMD Mixed Pairs, San Jose LBC.
- 24 Friendship Games, Sunnyvale LBC.

New Members

Philip Hubbard

Michael Hurley

Fred Pepper

Dovie Wylie