JULY-SEPTEMBER 2024



Welcome!

This newsletter is issued to help keep members up to date on news and events related to the Tustin Pickleball Association.

> Hope you enjoy our Newsletter.

The Tustin Pickleball Association is a taxexempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It exists to provide a fun, healthy, recreational activity for community members, while promoting the exercise, development of skills, and the enjoyment of the game of Pickleball.

NEWSLETTER



2024 Summer Edition

The 2024 Board of Directors is dedicated in keeping Tustin as a premier pickleball venue and to continue to grow our renown Tustin Pickleball program.

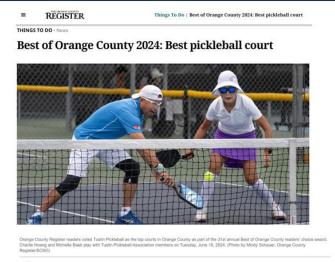
Below are the highlights of our summer season, covered in this edition of our newsletter.

- Tustin Pickleball was voted #1 for pickleball courts in the 2024 "Best of OC" poll conducted by the Orange County Register.
- On June 30th men and women fixed partner teams competed for gold in our second ladder event of the year.
- On July 21st, 120 club members, men and women from 3.0 to 4.5 level, participated in our summer round robin event.
- On August 10th, we hosted our second annual Members Appreciation lunch, serving up great food and fun for all.
- We upgraded our court webcam to provide a full, wide angle 180-degree field of view.
- In August, we completed repairs on courts 2 and 5 to recaulk the expansion joint crack.
- On Saturday, September 21, we kick off Team Challenge II, with 8 teams battling over 3 consecutive weekends for the Team Challenge Cup.

Tustin Pickleball Voted #1 Best of OC for 2024!

We are pleased to announce that Tustin Pickleball, along with Fountain Valley and Tustin Hills, has been voted one of the "Best of OC" for 2024 by the readers of the Orange County Register.

The annual **Best of Orange County** readers' choice poll celebrates the area's most popular attractions, restaurants and other businesses.



By GREG MELLEN | Orange County Registe PUBLISHED: September 20, 2024 at 5:47 a.m.

1. Tustin Pickleball

1302 Service Road, Tustin; tustinpickleball.org

Pickleball isn't just in the process of taking over recreational and not-so-recreational racquet sports — it *has* taken over. This year, The Register launches its inaugural "Best of" category for pickleball.

When the Tustin Pickleball Association, founded in 2010, suggested using a parcel of Tustin Unified School District land for a pickleball-only facility, it was an audacious plan.

Today, the Pete Burns courts, named for former director of maintenance for Tustin Unified, who brokered the deal, is home to 10 courts designed solely for pickleball.

It's a hit.

According to Terry Wong, president of Tustin Pickleball, it is not uncommon for players to be lined up and registered at 6:45 a.m. to get first dibs to play on the popular courts.

Drop-in play begins at 7 a.m. and continues until 11 a.m. Monday through Saturday on a firstcome, first-served basis. Although the courts can become crowded on holidays and weekends, it is rare to wait more than two games for a spot to open, according to Wong.

Tustin Pickleball, a nonprofit, operates the facility. Anyone can join and membership is \$120 annually, with unlimited play.

"It's very social," Wong said. "You can come and mix in."

Players interested in learning the game or from out of town can pay a \$10 drop-in fee. There is also loaner equipment and instruction available.

"We provide a tremendous value being a nonprofit," Wong said.

— Greg Mellen



Register readers selected winners in 81 voting categories in the annual Best of Orange County poll.

"Best pickleball court" is a new category added this year to the "Places to Go + Do" category and Tustin Pickleball was voted #1 in the county!

Winning such an honor is quite an achievement that we can all be proud of!

To access the entire article, go to:

https://www.ocregister.com/2024/09/20/best-oforange-county-2024-best-pickleball-court/

(you may need a subscription to the Orange County Register to access)

Webster 2.0 is Here!

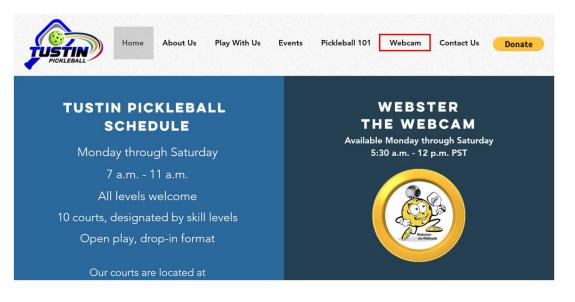
When Webster the webcam was born on March 5, 2023, he proved to be a smashing success. Members love the ability to check court conditions, crowd size, and who is at the courts. Now one year later, we've made Webster even better. Introducing Webster 2.0, a new, dual lens IP camera that now provides a full, wide angle view of the facility. All courts are now in view. No more hiding on courts 1, 9, and 10.



Webster broadcasts a live video stream of our courts that can be accessed from our Tustin Pickleball website on any device (phone, tablet, PC, or MAC). Webster 2.0 consists of a solar powered IP camera, a cellular SIM card router, and a lithium-ion battery. The solar panel can store enough energy to run Webster for up to 5 days on battery power alone.

Webster is available between the hours of 5:30am to 12pm PST Monday through Saturday, and during special events such as ladders and round robins.

To access Webster, go to the homepage on our website at tustinpickleball.org, and click on the Webster button icon. You can also access Webster by clicking on the "Webcam" link located on the main menu.



Court Repairs (Finally!) Completed September 26-28th

Last month we completed the expansion joint repairs on courts 2 and 5. The repair consisted of clearing the damaged and crumbled concrete, cutting a straight clean line, filling the joint with caulk, and repainting the new surface.

Background

When the original tennis courts were built at our facility (two courts side by side in each row), expansion joints were created between the courts along the separating fencelines. The purpose of these expansion joints is to relieve stress and allow the concrete slabs to expand and contract with changing temperatures. These joints are filled with flexible caulk to allow movement and prevent cracks from developing in the courts. When two tennis courts were converted to three pickleball courts in each row, one of the expansion joints ended up right on the center line of courts 2 and 5.



Why was the repair done with caulk and not concrete?

As the original caulking wore down a few years ago, it was temporarily repaired with a thin layer of concrete on top of the caulking. As this layer of concrete wore down, it created small chunks of concrete and large gaps in the court resulting in a serious safety hazard. In consultation with multiple tennis court companies, the recommendation for durability and safety was to clean the joint of broken concrete, straighten the edge, and reseal it with caulk to restore the joint back to its original construction. This would keep the joint flexible and maintain its intended purpose.

There is no perfect solution

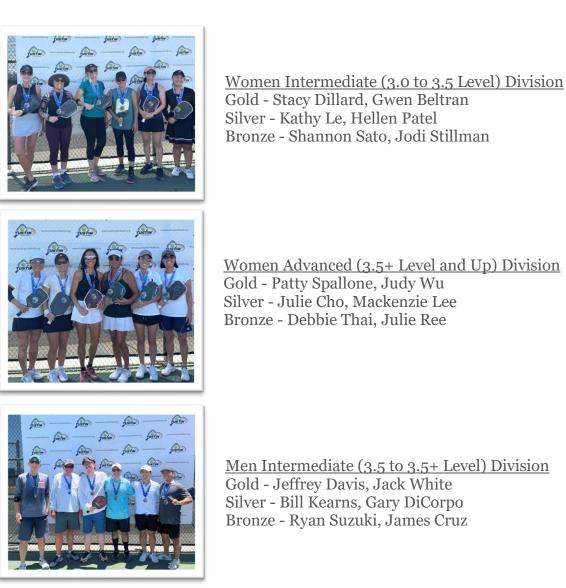
Unfortunately, short of reconstructing the concrete slabs and expansion joints, there is no perfect solution. The caulking creates a hard rubber surface that can result in an inconsistent bounce when a pickleball lands right on the joint. Players who play on courts 2 and 5 can decide amongst themselves (preferably prior to starting the game) whether to replay points or play through any bad bounces.



Tustin Pickleball Summer Ladder Event, June 30th

Our spring Tustin Pickleball ladder event was held on June 30th. Men and women participants played together in a series of matches where they had an opportunity to move up or down courts as they won or lost games. The event turned out to be a great day of fun and competition for all. Congratulations to all the medalists!





June 30th Ladder Medalists



<u>Men Advanced (4.0 Level and Up) Division</u> Gold - Jae Kim, Shin Kim Silver - Seyla Prak, Tyler Tabman Bronze - Tom Van, Jason Quinn

Tustin Pickleball Round Robin Event, July 21st

It was a great day of fun, friendly competition. Everybody played with a different partner in each game to earn the most wins on their court. Thank you to all participants and congratulations to all the winners!

Winners - Women's Divisions

Tina Koo (3.0), Chris Hsieh (3.0), Jennifer Beall (3.5), Shannon Shetty (3.5+), Mackenzie Lee (4.0), Cris Dym (3.5), Vy Nguyen (3.0), Lisa Montgomery (3.5), Patty Spallone (3.5+), Karen Lamie (4.5)-not pictured



Winners - Men's Divisions

Quinn Nguyen (3.5), Ted Montreevat (3.5), Naga Kollu (4.0), Tarun Verma (4.0), Rick Giangeruso (3.5+), Jay Cook (4.0), Trevor Chau (4.0), John Musgrave (3.0), Greg Wong (3.5+), Steve Nakanishi (4.5) & Seyla Prak (4.5)



Dink & Dine at the Members Appreciation Lunch, August 10th

























Under my Umbrella, ella, ella...

Four rectangular shaped, tilting umbrellas were installed in June on courts 1, 2, 4 & 5. These umbrellas provided our members much needed shade during the hot summer months.



Thanks to all for closing the umbrellas at the end of each day!

TODAY IN HISTOR 1775

1865

1964

1987

LOTTER

What happens when someone from the OC Register comes to the courts?

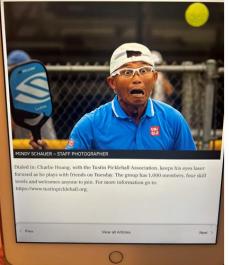
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Birthdays





HOT SHOT



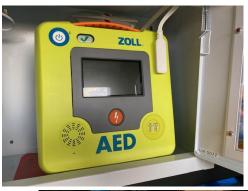






Facilities Update

- Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
 - The club has purchased a new state of the art AED device to replace the existing AED which was over 8 years old.
 - In addition to voice prompts, the new AED has a video monitor that guides the user through the emergency procedure.
 - The AED is located in a cabinet in the storage shed that is accessible during club hours in the event of an emergency.
 - The AED is a medical device designed to analyze the heart rhythm and deliver an electric shock to restore normal heart rhythm to victims of sudden cardiac arrest.
 - A new AED sign has been installed outside the shed.
- The courts will be cleaned by TUSD Maintenance & Operations on Sunday, September 29th. All courts will be closed that day from 6am to 6pm. Going forward, the courts will be cleaned on the last Sunday of each month.
- A new tennis net barrier (with extension poles), was installed between courts 7 and 9



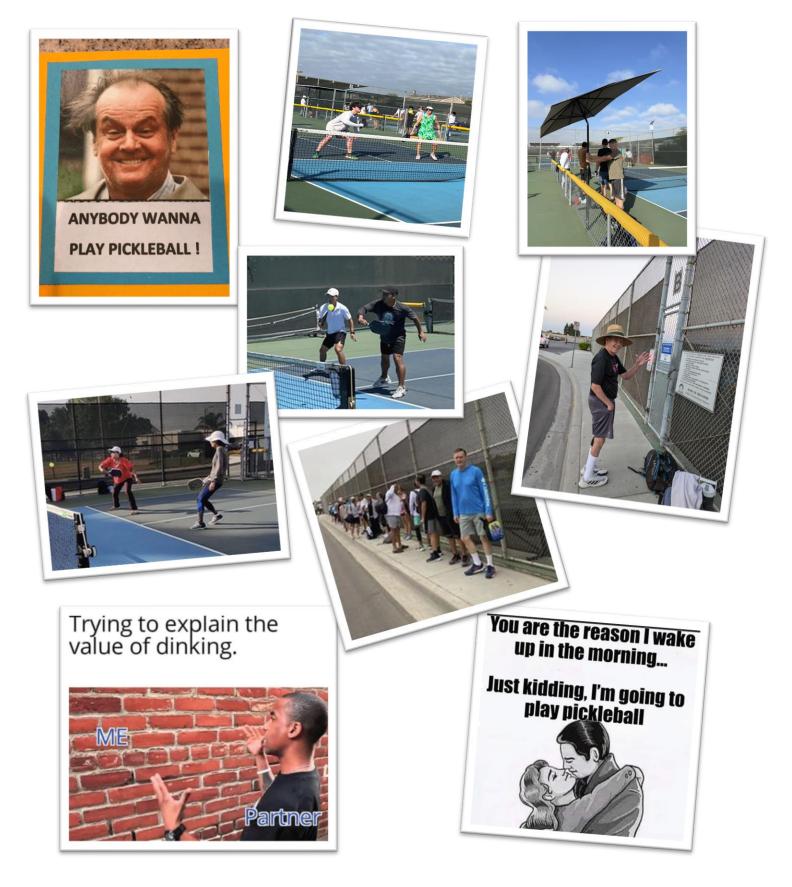








The fun never ends!



Member Spotlight Dr. Judy Tzu-Chun Wu

Born in Taiwan in the year of the monkey, Judy Tzu-Chun Wu, moved to Spokane, Washington when she was six years old. She immigrated with her parents who were both born in mainland China. Judy's adult years took her to Nor Cal, Ohio, Chicago and Germany. She arrived in So Cal in 2015. She is a professor at UC Irvine and an associated dean in the School of Humanities. Serving as the director of the Humanities Center gives her the opportunity to organize programs that explore interesting topics. Her theme this year is "Imagining Futures, Revisioning Pasts." She is also a historian. She's worked on various research projects and have published books. Her most recent is a biography of Patsy Takemoto Mink, the first woman of color elected to the U.S. Congress and the namesake for Title IX, a policy that mandates for gender equity for schools receiving federal funding. She co-authored the book with



Mink's daughter, political scientist Gwendolyn Mink. But it doesn't stop there. The U.S. Mint issued a quarter honoring Mink which took Judy to Washington D.C. to celebrate the release. Another collaboration is with a former UCI undergraduate which produced a comic biography of Patsy Mink. Lastly, she will be attending the premiere in L.A. of a play on Patsy Mink, which includes a post-performance Q &A with the playwright in early September. Geez, when does she find time to play pickleball? Lol.

Currently residing in Irvine, she and her husband Mark Walter have two sons Konrad and Langston. Her husband and her sons (who all prefer tennis), will reluctantly indulge her in a game of pickleball. Fun fact: she's the only member in her family under 6'3 and their family initials are JKLM.

Judy starts her day with yoga and ends with a core workout. Her primary sport is pickleball but also lift weights and jog. During the pandemic she became a photographer. She used that time to take daily walks, to slow down and to capture beauty and light amongst her surroundings. Going from zero to owning 6 cameras, she now uses her phone for the convenience. Judy is also a member of a gang called the Badass Asian Aunties and Associates (BAAAA). LOL!!! This 8 member vespa riding gang go on occasional riding and eating expeditions.

While she doesn't remember how she first heard about pickleball she was curious about it. During the pandemic lockdown she took a clinic at the OC Pickleball Club in Costa Mesa. Initially like most tennis players who get into pickleball her game was more like tennis. Eventually she became focused on dropping and resetting. Now her partners want her to channel more aggression in her game. She found Tustin Pickleball like everyone else, on the internet. In her own words "Tustin Pickleball is a great place to meet people and play with folks at varying levels." She's learned so much from the drills that she's able to adapt her tennis skills into specific pickleball shots. What she really enjoys about pickleball is the pick-up culture. She describes it as a democratic sport, with pros playing in the same tournaments as amateurs. She enjoys our organized competitions with varying formats. It allows her to play with and against people especially those she doesn't know well. She thanks the organizers for creating fun events.

You can also find her playing at Uni Hills, the UCI gym, Bonita Canyon, Newport Coast Community Center and Veterans Sports Park.

Judy wears many hats. Whether it's wife, mother, teacher or speaker, when life happens and she needs to stay focus, she recites these five precepts:

I am grateful for this new day I embrace impermanence I cultivate compassion for myself and others I walk the path of wisdom I am at peace with myself

Something to remind ourselves...



Upcoming Events (Subject to Change)



- Team Challenge II, September 21 through October 6
 - $\circ~8$ teams battle over 3 consecutive weekends for the Team Challenge Cup
- Halloween Party, Saturday, October 26, 7-11am
 - \circ Tricks and treats for all, prizes for best costumes
- Veterans Day Event, Monday, November 11, 7-11am
 - $\circ~$ A celebration to honor our veterans, no drop-in fee for veteran guests of members
- Thanksgiving Potluck, Saturday, November 23, 7-11am
 - Bring your favorite goodies to share!

For more information, go to our website at www.tustinpickleball.org/upcoming-events

Code of Conduct

We would like to take a moment to remind everyone of our Code of Conduct, which exists to create a safe and respectful environment for all players. Our Code of Conduct is fundamental to our success as it serves as a framework for appropriate behavior and helps ensure that everyone who plays at Tustin Pickleball (members as well as drop ins)



understands the expectations and consequences of their actions. Our Code of Conduct is available at the check in desk and on our website at www.tustinpickleball.org/code-of-conduct.

Tustin Pickleball Code of Conduct:

Tustin Pickleball was founded with a commitment to Respect, Integrity, Sportsmanship, and Accountability. In this spirit, we welcome all to these courts—regardless of gender, place of origin, ethnicity, religion, political belief, economic status, or ability.

To play here, it is expected that you:

- 1. Abide by the International Federation of Pickleball (IFP) rules and regulations.
- 2. Be a "Pickleball Ambassador." Treat everyone with courtesy and respect. Be especially welcoming and helpful to newcomers and visitors.
- 3. Respect the Tustin Pickleball facilities and property. Keep them clean and in good working order.
- 4. Pitch in. Help to set up and tear down whenever possible.
- 5. Strive to positively reinforce and influence other players. Encourage their growth, promote teamwork, and emphasize fun.
- 6. Accept responsibility for any guests you bring to the courts. Make sure they abide by these rules.
- 7. Be respectful of players engaged in play and strive to avoid interfering with their play.
- 8. Promote good sportsmanship and fairness in all aspects of play—line calls, accommodating waiting players, playing with players of a lower or higher skill level.
- 9. Refrain from giving unsolicited coaching or advice, or criticizing another player's skills.
- 10. Dress for safe and enjoyable play. Wear appropriate (for Pickleball), and non-offensive attire. Shirts and court shoes are a must.

Finally, anyone who engages in physical or verbal behavior that threatens the health, safety and/or physical and mental well-being of others, including the use of profanity, alcohol, tobacco and/or drugs, will not be tolerated.

Failure to abide by this Code may result in immediate removal from the courts and, possibly, disciplinary action by the Tustin Pickleball Board of Directors.

"Tustin Pickleball Drills" Program

Our Tustin Pickleball Drills program continues to grow and evolve. We now have over 140 participants and are conducting sessions 5 days a week, Monday through Friday, from 6:45 to 7:30am.

The objective of the program is to provide novice and intermediate players a chance to work on different aspects of their game. Through repetition, players can create muscle memory for each type of shot (similar to how golfers spend time at the driving range) and improve their overall skills set. A different shot is worked on each week, such as forehand and backhand groundstrokes, dinking, volleys, resets, lobs, and third shot drops. Coming soon, we will be offering live ball sessions which offer a fast-paced, fun format for improving pickleball skills.

Tustin Pickleball Drills are available only to Tustin Pickleball members, and are free of charge. Signups are currently limited to 4 players each session, and are managed using the TeamReach app. The TeamReach app allows us to create an event calendar, manage the sign-up process, and create a waitlist.

If you have any questions or would like to join the program, please text our program director Carl Cheng at 914-263-8226.



Tustin Pickleball Gear

Tustin Pickleball gear is available for purchase at the check-in desk at the courts.

We have an assortment of t-shirts (long and short sleeve), hats, sweatshirts, embroidered patches, keychains, rally towels, and water bottles for sale. Some examples are shown below. Please inquire at the check in desk for available items, styles, sizes, and colors.



Tustin Unified School District (TUSD)

Our Tustin pickleball courts are owned by the Tustin Unified School District (TUSD). We have been privileged that the school district allowed us to continue to play pickleball on their school grounds for the past 14 years. We need to re-iterate some of the rules bestowed upon us as we have so many new members and some may be hearing this for the first time.

The court gates are unlocked by the school district's security team every morning and locked at night. The courts are available to the public daily and most holidays except when otherwise noted, such as special school events, or tournaments/round robins.

Our club obtains a use permit to reserve the courts for open play and special events. The permit also grants us access to the School District's restroom/water refill station.



To maintain our reputable relationship with the Tustin School District, please adhere to the following:

- 1. Abide by the School District court rules. These rules are posted on the fences outside the courts.
- 2. Do NOT park in the School District parking lot on the weekdays, Monday - Friday! Parking is only allowed on the street or the small lot on the east side of the courts. Cars will be towed. Membership may be revoked if parking ordinance is violated.
- 3. While in the School District building, remember we are guests. Keep the noise level down and the bathrooms clean.
- 4. No dogs allowed on school property unless approved by the School District.
- 5. No Smoking on the courts!
- 6. Please contact a Board member, NOT the School District if you have any concerns about the courts.

Tuesday Street Sweeping

Street sweeping no-parking hours on Service Road and School Lane is every Tuesday from 7:00am to 11:00am. The city was contacted regarding the impact to our drop-in play held every Tuesday during this time. Here is the city's response:

Street sweeping will begin on Service Road around 7:00am with a Tustin PD officer following to ticket any vehicles parked in the sweeper's path. Once the street has been swept, typically by 7:30am, players may park on the street. The city has assured us that the Tustin PD officer will not make a second pass on the street to write tickets once the street has been swept. Please note Carfax St by court 1 is also scheduled for street sweeping on Tuesdays. Street sweeping on Carfax St is later in the morning. We suggest that you do not park on Carfax St during their no-parking hours.

TUSD Maintenance Parking Lot and Restroom

There is NO PARKING ALLOWED in the TUSD Maintenance and Operations parking lot adjacent to the pickleball courts on Mondays thru Fridays, from 6:00am to 3:30pm. The Tustin school district will have your car towed.

TUSD maintenance requests that there is no drop off, U-turns, or drive throughs in the parking lot. Also, members should not drop off passengers along the right-side curve (marked as a red zone) going from Service Road to School Lane. This is a very dangerous blind spot for westbound vehicles. Also, there is no parking in the striped area in the parking lot behind the courts. Cars have been ticketed and may be towed.

The restrooms are available to Tustin Pickleball members from 7:00am to 11:00am only, on organized play days, Mondays - Saturdays. Members should not ask TUSD employees to open the restroom door outside of these hours.

We are fortunate to have a great partnership with the Tustin Unified School District. They have made several accommodations to work with Tustin Pickleball and not following their rules and guidelines can and will jeopardize our program's existence.





2025 Membership

Thank you for your support. Your membership fee helps pay for Tustin Pickleball's expenses such as permits, court usage fees, equipment, facilities improvements, restroom access and insurance.

Membership is \$120 for the calendar year, January - December.

The benefits of membership include club discounts on pickleball merchandise at select websites, voting privileges, qualifying to be a Board Member, and participation in club sponsored events, such as round robins and ladder tournaments.

New memberships and renewals paid for between October 1 and December 31, 2024 will be valid through December 31, 2025.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to another great year in 2025.

Retail Member Discounts

Pickleball Central – 5% off plus 5% goes back to Tustin Pickleball! Go to <u>www.pickleballcentral.com</u> to shop for equipment. Use CRTUSTIN at checkout to receive the discount. Pickleball Central will donate 5% of the proceeds to our club!



Suggestion Box

Got a suggestion for making your Tustin Pickleball even better? Here are three ways to share your awesome ideas:

- Send an email to info@tustinpickleball.org
- Share your idea with any Board Member at the courts
- Drop your idea in the suggestion box on the check in table by court #8

Lost and Found

Items not claimed will be donated to Goodwill or The Salvation Army on a quarterly basis. Last chance to claim your items will be March 31st, June 30th, September 30th and December 31st.

Website

www.tustinpickleball.org

Email

info@tustinpickleball.org

Facebook

www.facebook.com/groups/tustinpb

Instagram

www.instagram.com/tustinpickleball

Be safe, be courteous, and have fun!

Your 2024 Board of Directors, Tustin Pickleball

President - Terry Wong Vice President - Chiko Wong Treasurer - Gerry Rowland Secretary - Stella Inta Membership - Beth Arkin Communications - Bonnie Goodman Instruction & Events - Carl Cheng Facilities - Greg Goodman Member-at-Large - JoAnn Spiegel