On March 25 at 3:00 pm the GVR Pickleball Club will hold its annual meeting for 2020. As part of that meeting, we will vote on candidates for our vacant board positions and proposed bylaw revisions to add electronic and early voting for future issues and candidates. Here are the bios of this year’s candidates, as well as three additional questions and their responses.

**Candidate for President: Gina Rowsam**

I am pleased to accept the nomination for President. Having served this past year as Vice President and taking on significant projects for the board, remaining an active participant at GVR meetings and P&E Committee member, participating in our excellent social events, assisting with the successful fundraising campaign for the 24-court pickleball center and participating in the offerings as an instructor with our education department, I believe I have the experience required to continue the club’s good work. With success realized for needed physical space (36 courts), we are poised to address and refine existing (and when needed create new) systems, offerings, processes and procedures which focus on player development and engagement. From recreational play to competitive tournaments and league play, the club can have pathways available for individuals to enjoy and grow in the sport. I will deploy my skills engaging our talented members to apply creative solutions.

**How long have you been in Green Valley? How did you discover pickleball? Where are you from and what did you do before retirement?**

Have been coming to this area with my parents since the mid 1970s, they retired here in 1984.

Scott and I heard about pickleball before we moved although never played till January 2018. Our original intention was to play lots of golf. Once we stepped foot on the pickleball courts, we got bit with the bug and this is now our primary sport and activity.

Born and raised in Colorado (Alamosa), graduated with my undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder and with my masters from St Mary's University in Winona, Minnesota. I enjoyed a 25 plus year career in university administration with leadership roles in law school fundraising, professional development, career planning, and continuing education at universities in Wyoming and Oklahoma. I also had my own insurance business in Boulder, Colorado.

**What volunteer activities have you done with our club?**

I've served this past year as Vice President and have been primarily involved with fundraising for the new center, ground breaking and grand opening ceremonies. With respect to club administration, I helped to revamp the club’s Conduct Expectations Policy. I served in the President's absence to conduct several meetings and to deal with general inquiries that come through the club's website. I attended numerous GVR Board and Committee meetings to stay abreast of how the club would be impacted. I served as a coach for Pickleball 101, Developing Skills, and Improve Your Game sessions. I have been instrumental in evaluating our existing systems (electronic and otherwise) to identify areas for improvement and options for achieving such.
What do you see as the three most important issues for our club?
Build club membership and engagement by improving our existing systems and communications platforms and recommend the board develop and adopt a budget to manage the club’s finances.

Examine existing and develop new programs and activities that will reach any level of member, e.g. recreational, competitive and social. Toward this end, inventory, analyze, and assess current roles of Board members and volunteers. From this assessment, develop a written matrix of job descriptions and lines of authority and make available to the membership for their information and involvement.

Maintain good communication with GVR administration and board as they work through leadership transitions.

Candidate for Vice-President: Mike Clemens
No Bio submitted

How long have you been in Green Valley? How did you discover pickleball? Where are you from and what did you do before retirement? My wife, Lori, and I live full time in GV since Nov, 2012. I was born in Minnesota but grew up in Wheaton, IL. I have two degrees in aeronautical engineering. I have worked for Lockheed, CDC, General Motors and two private consulting firms. I have five children all living in different states.

What volunteer activities have you done with our club? I started playing pickleball indoors in January, 2011 when I retired from full time consulting through a friend of Lori. I have volunteered with our GVR pickleball through refereeing at tournaments, participating in committees such as our outdoor racket committee, sound studies at Canoa Ranch, and repairing and installing paddle cables and fencing at various courts. I also volunteer at the Titan Museum and the GV foodbank weekly.

What do you see as the three most important issues for our club? The three most important issues for our GVR pickleball club are the following:
1. Managing our courts,
2. Helpings new members to enjoy playing pickleball,
3. Developing solid reasons for pickleball players to join our club.

Candidate for Secretary: Susan MacMillan

I am Susan MacMillan and my entire career was spent working as an Executive Assistant and Office Manager in Southern California in the academic, for-profit and non-profit organizations. I've supported many Presidents, CEOs and General Managers at UCLA, a major accounting firm in Los Angeles, and Planned Parenthood. I am confident that I can make a worthwhile contribution to the Green Valley Pickleball Club.
How long have you been in Green Valley? How did you discover pickleball?
Where are you from and what did you do before retirement? I retired to Green Valley in 2008 to reconnect with an old boyfriend and play tennis. The relationship didn’t work out, but I quickly became enamored of the small town friendliness and numerous amenities. It took 3 attempts at pickleball, which I found quite odd before it "took".....from then on I was hooked! I was born in Chicago and grew up in Southern California, where my 2 sons and 3 beautiful grandkids live. I was an Executive Assistant and Office Manager for a number of corporations, most specifically Chevron Oil, a major Los Angeles accounting firm, UCLA and Planned Parenthood.

What volunteer activities have you done with our club? I've supported and interacted with many diverse, challenging personalities. which was a perfect lead-in to the volunteering I've done since in Green Valley; i.e. the White Elephant, Friends in Deed, Animal League, Casa Community Services, to name a few. I've been a line judge for the Pickleball Club, played games with players being tested, and currently oversee the Round Robin sign-ups to verify club membership and rating.

What do you see as the three most important issues for our club? I would say the number one issue for our club is to convince GVR residents that pickleball is here to stay nationally. Growing our membership, reaching out to new homeowners who share the joy of pickleball, assisting in teaching the sport to children and continuing the various activities such as Senior Games will justify the decision to build 24 new courts that has been so polarizing the past five years.

I am pleased and satisfied with most everything that the Club does on a daily basis for those of us who love pickleball. We’re all individuals and mistake will always happen, but I honestly cannot come up with additional issues. Thanks for the congratulations and I look forward to getting more involved!

Candidate for Treasurer: Michael Harrington

I am a retired Computer Professional having held positions as Programmer, Database Admin, Manager and Systems guy that lives full-time in Green Valley. Being the Treasurer would be a new experience for me; however I am a quick study. I believe my past experience supporting a variety of the largest computer systems in the country – including Accounting and Finance – has given me the attention to detail and disciplinary skills required to do the job. I have taken care of the finances in our household for 35 years, and manage a majority of our portfolio successfully (stocks, bonds, CD's, etc). On a personal level, I am a recently widowed avid Pickleball player with a lot of time on my hands (no sympathy votes please!!). I just took Coaches Training courses in February 2020 and am excited about helping our new players. Most people who know me would say I am a friendly, easy-to-get-along-with open minded person. I would be honored to have the chance to work with the board of the largest, best and fastest growing club in the GVR.
How long have you been in Green Valley? How did you discover pickleball?
Where are you from and what did you do before retirement? I have been in Green Valley since August 2015 (4+ years) and I am a ‘full timer’. I love GV, and plan to spend the rest of my life here. I discovered Pickleball through word of mouth by a few Pickleball players that were part of a foursome that got together to play cards and other games a few years ago. It only took a few classes of Pball 101 and I was hooked (despite the Paul May ‘tough love’ approach, and I don’t mean that in a bad way!). I play at least 3 or 4 times a week.

I grew up on the East Coast. 10 years in Springfield, MA and the rest in Saratoga, NY. I went to college for Computer Science and spent nearly 40 years as a Computer Professional (Sysprog, Programmer, DBA, Manager, etc) working for Xerox Corporation in Rochester NY, QANTAS Airways in Sydney Australia (I spent most of the 90’s in OZ), Compuware in Phoenix for a few years as a consultant, 3 years with IBM as a DBA for Federal Express and AVIS, and my longest tenure at ADOT (Arizona Department of Transportation) as a DBA supporting their Driver License, Title & Registration and the Data Warehouse applications.

What volunteer activities have you done with our club? I volunteered for a Line Judge at the Senior Games last year and have done RR Coordinator. I just took the Coaching Class and am currently helping Sandy and Al W. coach the current Pball 101 class. I am also going to help with Developing Skills in the near future, and have signed up for Line Judge for this year’s Senior Games. I also made a killer bruschetta at this year’s Dink and Dine – none left at clean up time!

What do you see as the three most important issues for our club?
1) Managing the new PBC and keeping the interest up for our club players (in other words, getting out there so that GVR4US does not run a smear campaign if it hasn’t already)
2) Fixing up the issues with the new PBC (seating, shade, places for paddles). I know these are in progress, and we just need to keep up with it like we have been.
3) Managing the money we have in the best possible way as the new Treasurer. I’d like to explore working up a budget and possibly modernizing the way we pay our dues.

As far as bringing something to the position I am running for that I have not already stated above, I believe my open mind, easy going personality and enthusiasm to help the Pickleball board in any way possible is what I have to offer.

Candidate for Member At Large: Dean Barnes

I have an AA degree in electronics from Mt San Antonio College in Walnut, California and a BS degree in Engineering Technology from Cal Poly Pomona, in Pomona, California. I retired in 1998 from Raytheon Missile Systems after 37 years working for General Dynamics Missile Systems which became Hughes Missile Systems which became Raytheon Missile Systems in various engineering and management positions. My wife Sandy and I sold our house on the northeast side of Tucson in early 1999, bought a motorhome, and “went on the road”. We traveled all over the United States...
and Canada, including three trips to Alaska. We bought our house in 2005 and moved the last week of the year. Until I lost the love of my life to cancer in May of 2018, exactly one month short of our 56th anniversary, we were sort of snow birds, spending the summers in our motorhome somewhere in the U.S., or Canada, out of the heat. In 2014 we were introduced to pickleball and were hooked. In the fall of 2017, Sandy had this idea about name tags. As a result we/l have made well over 1100 name tags, including 160 so far this year.

How long have you been in Green Valley? How did you discover pickleball? Where are you from and what did you do before retirement? See above

What volunteer activities have you done with our club? Beyond making our name tags I have volunteered as a referee during our senior games.

What do you see as the three most important issues for our club? I believe a very important goal for the club is to demonstrate to the GVR community in general that we are a beneficial member of the community; maybe by being more active in supporting other clubs within GVR, more visible with food-drives for the Food Bank, more prominent in the GVR blasts advocating pickleball classes. If we participate in the White Elephant Parade we should visibly advocate for GVR as well as identify as the Pickleball Club.

Candidate for Member At Large: Patrick Furumoto

My wife, Mary, and I are beginning our 3rd year in Green Valley as fulltime residents. I am currently a 3.0 player and my wife is a 2.5. In the past several months, I became one of the coordinators for the 2.5 round robins. I also have assisted with coaching the pickleball 101 classes recently. With these experiences, I realized that I wanted to get more involved with the club. I feel that I will be able:
---To assist with growing it’s membership,
---To promote the continued development of the club’s educational offerings,
---To ensure that the club is fiscally responsible,
---Is properly represented in the Green Valley Recreation Assn, etc.
Besides my experiences with the GV Pickleball Club and its activities, I feel that my past work experiences and involvement below provides me with applicable insight on how a club operates.
As Director of Customer Service for a large wholesale and bookstore business, I was involved with conflict resolution of customer service issues, strategic planning and budgeting, and project management of systems integrations.
As a member of a square dance club with up to 100 members in the Chicagoland area, I held the position of President, Vice-President and Secretary for a number of years. This gave me experience with creating a yearly budget, finding, teaching, and retaining members.
I would appreciate your vote, as I will do my best to continue the efforts of the GV Pickleball Club in facilitating a great experience for its members.

**How long have you been in Green Valley? How did you discover pickleball? Where are you from and what did you do before retirement?**

My wife, Mary, and I are beginning our 3rd year in Green Valley as fulltime residents having moved from the Chicagoland area. We have been familiar with Green Valley for a number of years, since our intention was to move here once we retired.

We love it here and not soon after we move here fulltime, we had friends introduce us to pickleball. A sport we had no idea existed! After our initial introduction to pickleball, we signed up for pickleball classes and attended the developing skills sessions, which were great to give us the skills and knowledge to get out and play.

**What volunteer activities have you done with our club?**

In the past several months, I became one of the coordinators for the 2.5 round robins on Wednesdays. I also have assisted with coaching the pickleball 101 classes in January and am doing it again this March. I have also signed up to assist with the upcoming Senior Games.

**What do you see as the three most important issues for our club?**

1. As with any club, the growth of the club comes from new members. It is important to continue to add pickleball and developing skills classes, as needed. And to assist these beginners, have optional practice times available, so it isn’t too intimidating for them to find someone to practice with in-between classes.
2. It appears to me that there are many members who do not play on a regular basis for one reason or another. I think we should find out why and attempt to get them active in the club.
3. Do what we can to ensure that the Pickleball Club is properly represented in the Green Valley Rec Assn and other local associations, as deemed appropriate.

**I would appreciate your vote, I will do my best to make this club an enjoyable experience for all members.**

**Candidate for Member At Large: Dianna Michels**

To whom it may concern, I would like to formally apply for the “Member at Large” position for the Green Valley Pickleball Club!

My husband and I bought a house in 2012 and became full time residents in 2018. I moved from Minnesota where I held a variety of positions as an Occupational Therapist and educator in the schools for 35 years. I have a Masters Degree in education.

I started playing Pickleball in Minnesota and was hooked. I am very passionate about Pickleball and the continued growth of the sport within our club!
I have demonstrated my ability to work with others within the Green Valley Pickleball club. I am currently involved in several committees such as; social committee, assisting with Developing skills and Pickleball 101, the Senior Pickleball tournament and help with Pickleball club apparel. My strong communication skills and outgoing but friendly personality combined with my knowledge of Pickleball provides me a great opportunity to be a board member of the Pickleball club.

These are just a few examples of my commitment and contributions to our club. My goal is to continue supporting and encouraging all level of play within our club.

Thank you for considering me for the position!

How long have you been in Green Valley? How did you discover pickleball? Where are you from and what did you do before retirement? Answered in bio above.

What volunteer activities have you done with our club? Answered in bio above.

What do you see as the three most important issues for our club?
1. Increase club membership
2. Fundraising/future tournaments for club
3. Support for all level of players

Bylaw Revisions - Additions in blue

E. Nominating Committee:
A team of at least two (2) club members appointed by the board in the first week of January and the club President or the President's designee shall comprise the Nomination Committee. They will present prospective candidates for open board positions, i.e. President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Members At Large board members to the membership board by the second-first week of March. At the annual meeting the slate of all candidates will be presented to the club membership. All candidates will be put to a hand or secret-ballot vote. A secret-ballot will be used if more than one candidate is proposed for any board position; otherwise a hand-vote will be used.

F. Election Committee:
A team of at least two (2) club members appointed by the board prior to March 1 and the club President or the President's designee shall comprise the Election Committee. They will gather and tabulate the results from all approved methods of voting. The
Election Committee shall validate each ballot as described in Section G. Following the deadline for accepting ballots, the Election Committee will present the results to the President or Vice-President for presentation to the membership at the Annual Meeting. The Election Committee will also present all ballots and tabulation records with the election results.

F. Election

G. Election:
Members of the GVR Pickleball Club who have paid their annual dues in full by March 1 of each year and who are in good standing as GVR members shall be eligible to vote. It shall be the responsibility of all members to advise the Club Secretary of any changes to phone or email contact information.

No later than fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual Meeting, the slate of all candidates and any proposed Bylaws amendments will be presented to the club membership through the use of Email, the club website, and flyers posted at the courts. Voting instructions shall accompany the published slate and any amendments. Club members who are eligible to vote will be able to use either of two methods to vote for candidates and proposed amendments to GVRPC Bylaws.

1. Submit the paper ballot to the Election Committee by U.S. mail or by depositing the ballot in the designated Pickleball Club mailbox. Paper ballots shall be accepted until the end of day on the Sunday preceding the date of the Annual Meeting. Ballots submitted by U.S. mail will be deemed timely and counted, providing they are postmarked by the preceding Sunday and delivered prior to the Annual Meeting.

1. Submit the ballot electronically up until 6:00 pm (Arizona time) on the day before the Annual Meeting. The member shall receive acknowledgement of the successful submission of a valid ballot, using the contact info provided on the ballot.

The Election Committee shall tabulate all votes cast by these methods, verifying that each ballot contains a valid GVR member number, using the current member list described in Section E. If a ballot does not include the GVR member number of a
current GVRPC member, the ballot shall be deemed invalid. Any duplicate ballots received and identified by the GVR member number shall also be deemed invalid.

All officers and board members shall be elected by a majority vote of those verified ballots cast, provided that the total number of verified ballots constitutes a quorum. All officers and board members shall serve without compensation. In the event that candidates for two (2) Members At Large positions are to be elected, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be deemed elected for the two positions. In the event of a tie between two or more than one candidates for one position, the Board shall meet in Executive Session to break the tie and appoint one of the candidates to the position.