



Gentlemen of the BTC,

October 31, 2024

We all enjoyed a great weather day at Silver Lakes on Tuesday. The temperature was terrific, and the wind was strong and messed up our hair (for some people). A big change from last year's blizzard. I heard some great scores were turned in. After golf we enjoyed a nice dinner followed by end of year golf payouts. Congratulations to all the winners in their categories. The final Daily Game results are being tabulated and will be published in next week's newsletter.

A big thank you to **Larry Garetto** for his hard work and commitment as the golf chair. **Larry** will be passing the torch to **Anthony Serritella** and **Scott Lee** as golf co-chairs next year.



Here is the proposed slate of officers for 2025.

President: **Bob Kennedy**

Vice President: **Anthony Serritella** (*played by Lee Kaz*)

Treasurer: **Anthony Serritella** (filling in for **Lee Kaz**) (Fiduciary conflict of interest)

Secretary: **Dave Jenner**

Immediate Past President: **Scott Lee**

The formal motion and vote to accept the 2025 slate of Officers will be done at the December 3rd Club Christmas dinner.

As stated in our By-Laws Article V, section 2 (c): "Any thirty (30) members in good standing may prepare an independent ticket for any or all said officers, subscribe thereto and file the same with the Secretary prior to October 25 thereafter, who shall include said ticket in the next regular weekly notice sent to each member in good standing."

On the Mend

Kindly keep member **Ed Chmelar** in your thoughts and prayers. Earlier this week he underwent a serious bypass procedure done. As he recovers, please refrain from reaching out. We will inform you when he is ready to receive calls.



Origins of Pumpkin Carving

The tradition of carving pumpkins, known as **jack-o'-lanterns**, originates from an old Irish myth about a man named **Stingy Jack**. According to the legend, Jack was a clever but deceitful man who tricked the devil multiple times. When Jack died, he was not allowed into heaven or hell and was condemned to roam the earth with only a burning coal inside a carved-out turnip to light his way. This figure became known as "Jack of the Lantern," or "Jack o' Lantern".

Transition to Pumpkins

In Ireland and Scotland, people began carving scary faces into turnips, beets, and potatoes to frighten away Stingy Jack and other wandering spirits. When Irish immigrants arrived in America, they found that pumpkins, native to the region, were larger and easier to carve than turnips. Thus, the pumpkin became the preferred medium for jack-o'-lanterns.

Modern Traditions

Today, pumpkin carving is a central part of Halloween celebrations. Families and friends gather to carve intricate designs, ranging from traditional spooky faces to elaborate artistic creations. The carved pumpkins are often illuminated with candles or lights and displayed on porches and windowsills to create a festive atmosphere.

Here are some lesser-known facts about Halloween that might surprise you:

Candy Corn's Original Name: Candy corn was originally called “Chicken Feed” when it was first produced in the 1880s.

Michael Myers' Mask: The iconic mask worn by Michael Myers in the movie "Halloween" was actually a modified William Shatner mask from "Star Trek".

Largest Halloween Parade: New York's Greenwich Village Halloween Parade is the largest Halloween parade in the world, featuring over 50,000 participants in costume.

Jack-o'-Lantern Origins: The first jack-o'-lanterns were made from turnips, not pumpkins. This tradition comes from an Irish legend about a man named Stingy Jack.

Samhainophobia: There is a specific phobia for the fear of Halloween called Samhainophobia.

Soul Cakes: The tradition of trick-or-treating has roots in the medieval practice of “souling,” where the poor would go door-to-door on Hallowmas (November 1) offering prayers for the dead in exchange for soul cakes.

Pumpkin Production: Illinois produces about 90-95% of the pumpkins used in the United States, amounting to around 500 million pounds annually.

Fortune-Telling: Halloween folklore is rich with fortune-telling traditions. For example, it was believed that looking into a mirror at midnight on Halloween could reveal your future spouse.

Day of the Dead: In Mexico, Halloween is closely followed by the Days of the Dead (Días de los Muertos) from October 31 to November 2, a time to honor deceased loved ones.

Record-Breaking Pumpkins: The heaviest pumpkin ever recorded weighed 2,624.6 pounds and was grown by Mathias Willemijns from Belgium.

Happy November Birthdays

Bill Foster (2), Dan Tomkins (2), Tom Tucker (2), Tony Alexander (5), Ken Poteracki (5), Robert Long (9), Gary Foster (11), Roger Stewart (11), Kelly Melfi (13), Randy Giovanetti (14), Michael Christophersen (15), Michael Breier (16), John Roberts (16), Ron Bazan (17), Scott Carter (17), Mike Ganz (21), Tom Wilson (21), Kevin Bewley (27)



Strengths: Resourceful, powerful, brave, passionate, a true friend

Weaknesses: Distrusting, jealous, manipulative, violent

Scorpio likes: Truth, facts, being right, talents, teasing, passion

Scorpio dislikes: Dishonesty, revealing secrets, superficiality, small talk

Parting thought:



Here's a list of some popular Halloween songs that are perfect for creating a spooky and fun atmosphere:

- **"Thriller"** by Michael Jackson
- **"Monster Mash"** by Bobby "Boris" Pickett
- **"Ghostbusters"** by Ray Parker Jr.
- **"Somebody's Watching Me"** by Rockwell
- **"Disturbia"** by Rihanna
- **"Time Warp"** from The Rocky Horror Picture Show
- **"This Is Halloween"** from The Nightmare Before Christmas
- **"Highway to Hell"** by AC/DC
- **"Superstition"** by Stevie Wonder
- **"Spooky, Scary Skeletons"** by Andrew Gold
- **"Black Magic Woman"** by Santana

- **“Bury a Friend”** by Billie Eilish
- **“Bad Moon Rising”** by Credence Clearwater Revival
- **“The Addams Family Theme”**
- **“Heads Will Roll”** by Yeah Yeah Yeahs
- **“Pet Sematary”** by Ramones
- **“Werewolves of London”** by Warren Zevon
- **“I Put a Spell on You”** by Screamin’ Jay Hawkins
- **“Zombie”** by The Cranberries
- **“Don’t Fear the Reaper”** by Blue Oyster Cult

I’ll bet most of you are humming one or two of these now.

Yours in BTCism.

Lee Kaz, 2024 Secretary

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Tennis Report – Al Baldermann

On Tuesday, November 5th from 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm we will begin our tennis season at Park Forest Tennis Club. Let’s hope that everyone returns from last year.

If there is anyone interested in playing we would be pleased to have you join us. There are all levels of players, so anyone can find a spot you would feel comfortable with.

The cost is \$110 for the Park Forest Tennis Club membership. And a weekly fee of \$11 for court time and balls.

Also, please mark your calendar for Tuesday, November 12th after tennis and bowling. We have 30 confirmed for our annual GIO trip. The reservation is for 7pm. Great restaurant. Always a great time. If anyone else is interested in going please let me know ASAP.

Bowling News

Bowling Season is upon us! It was great seeing many of you at Silver Lakes this past Tuesday. As I mentioned to most of you, I would like to have a brief Captains Meeting at 1:45 pm at Burr Oak Bowl before bowling to go over rules, suggestions and any other issues we need to button up before we start our bowling season. If your captain cannot make the meeting please try to have a team representative there.

We are currently sitting at 10 full teams with a few teams looking to add an individual bowler to add to their roster for a rotation or to split a spot. Please call or text me at 708-912-8831 if you are interested in bowling this season, I will find you a team!

See You Tuesday

Keith Tadevich

Bowling Secretary

708-912-8831