



Gentlemen of the BTC,

December 12, 2024

Unfortunately, I have more bad news to bear. **William F. ‘Bill’ Bard Jr.**, U.S. Navy Veteran, age 78 passed away on December 7th, 2024. **Bill** was a member of the Builders Tee Club from 1991-2005. **Bill** was the longtime owner of Arena Lanes.

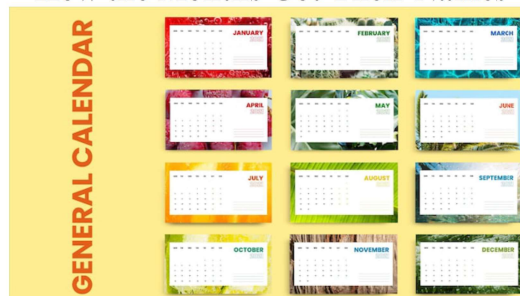
Visitation Thursday 2-7 P.M. at Lawn Funeral Home, 7732 W. 159th St. Orland Park, IL 60462. Lying in State Friday 9:00 A.M. until time of Funeral Service at 10:00 A.M. at Christ Lutheran Church, 14700 S. 94th Ave. Orland Park, IL 60462. Interment Christ Lutheran Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to American Lung Association (www.lung.org) would be appreciated.



Sick & Vigil

Jim Eppolito's wife, Nancy, is in the hospital battling several issues. Please keep her in your thought and prayers for a full and speedy recovery.

How the Months Got Their Names



March (Martius) was named for Mars, the god of war, because this was the month when active military campaigns resumed.

May (Maius) and June (Junius) were also named for goddesses Maia and Juno.

April (Aprilis) is thought to stem from the Latin aperio, meaning “to open”—a reference to the opening buds of springtime.

The rest of the months were numbered; their original names in Latin meant the fifth (Quintilis), sixth (Sextilis), seventh (September), eighth (October), ninth (November), and tenth (December) month. Eventually, January (Januarius) and February (Februarius) were added to the end of the year, giving all 12 months proper names.

January was named after Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and transitions. February's name is believed to stem from *Februa*, an ancient festival dedicated to ritual springtime cleaning and washing.

December Holidays



December 1 is the First Sunday of Advent, marking the beginning of the Advent season.

December 6 is Saint Nicholas Day. The patron saint of children is the model for Santa Claus and gift-giving.

December 7 is National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

December 8 is Bodhi Day in the Buddhist calendar, celebrating Buddha's enlightenment; it's celebrated in a way that's similar to how Christians celebrate Christmas to honor Jesus Christ.

December 13 is St. Lucia's Day, which has long been associated with festivals of light. Before the Gregorian calendar reform in 1752, her feast day occurred on the shortest day of the year (hence the saying "Lucy light, Lucy light, shortest day and longest night").

December 15 is Bill of Rights Day.

December 17 is Wright Brothers Day.

December 21 is the Winter Solstice, the astronomical day when the hemisphere is tilted as far away from the Sun as possible. Starting in ancient times, people celebrated the rebirth of the Sun event through Yule.

December 25 is Christmas Day, a Christian holiday commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. The reason for the season.

December 25 also marks the beginning of Hanukkah this year, the 8-day Jewish festival of lights.

Happy December Birthdays

Greg Will (1), Gary Klonowski (3), Mike Loye (4), Bob Schaefer (6), Joe Eppolito (11), Daniel Grimes (12), Todd Johnson (14), Dan Heraty (16), Bob Kennedy (16), Mike Sutko (19), Nick Mady (21), Gene Banas (23), Jack Carter (23), Chuck Cahill (25), Bart Crosby (28), Dick Kerkstra (31), Joe Rymysa (31).

Parting thought:

- Farmers have a unique way of looking at life through years of hard work and pure common sense. Here are a few for you to pass on to your children or grandchildren.
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- The early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.
- Don't corner something that's meaner than you. (Great husband advice!)
- Always drink upstream from the herd.
- Never kick a fresh cow chip on a hot day.
- Good judgment comes from experience, and experience comes from bad judgment. (I think Dean Martin also said this.)

- Most of the stuff people worry about never happens anyway.
- Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- Don't skinny dip with snapping turtles.
- Forgive your enemies. It messes with their heads.
- Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in.
- Always hire a lazy man to do a hard job. He'll find an easy way to do it.
- You don't have to outrun the bear. Just outrun the guy next to you.

Have a great week!

Yours in BTCism.

Lee Kaz, 2024 Secretary

Lee@AscendWealthPlanning.com

708-927-0480 cell

GOLF NEWS

Please review this video from Anthony Serritella before responding to the survey in the link below.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1ilZ0UASX8>

Golf Survey—

Thank you to all that have responded to the golf survey. As of this writing, 60 people have responded with answers to the questions as well as some very insightful comments. If you haven't responded yet, please do so as soon as possible. We want to give people a little more time to respond before discussing survey results. There is one thing we want to make sure is clear to all. Some have commented about having to compete against those that are playing from a forward tee box (shorter distance). Keep in mind that with the new handicap system, your handicap will be affected not only by the difficulty of the golf course but also by the tee box you are playing from on any given day. If a golfer is playing from the forward tee his handicap will be multiple strokes lower than if he were playing back. If there is anything about the survey or the questions that you don't understand, please feel free to call either Anthony Serritella or Scott Lee. We will do our best to clear up any confusion that you may have. Also, if you have not received the survey email, text us your correct email address. Perhaps there was a typo or maybe we don't have your correct email.

Your New Golf Guys,

Scott Lee

(312) 340-4171

Anthony Serritella

(630) 430-5742

Please use the following link to complete a Survey regarding play next year.

[Link to Survey](#)

HISTORIAN REPORT

Fellow Members,

First of all I would like to Thank Rich Schroeder for doing my job since I told him that I wasn't going to interview myself, so he did it.

On to what I wanted to write about. I have been asked many a time what the numbers mean when you get the newsletter and the tennis names and scores are listed. I will give you a quick explanation of the scoring and a little history about the BTC Tennis Group. First we only play doubles tennis. Two players on each side of the net. Scoring is by the point. Each point won for your side increases your score until you win a game. Scoring is 0 (called love), 15, 30, 40 and the next point would be game. But you have to win by two points so if it is 40-40 (called deuce) the next point won is called "Ad (advantage)" and then you will have to win the next point to win the game or it would go back to deuce. The scores listed in the Newsletter by the names are games won/games played. So if it says Baldermann 15/25 Al had a good day and won 15 out of 25 games that he played. Since everyone who shows up gets to play if you have 16 players you use 4 courts for two hours and play one set (6 games won) with each partner. If 17 guys show up 3 courts play that way and the one court with five players rotates one player out and just plays four games at a time (each player serves once) then another player sits and the other four serve one game each. Every Tennis Chairman that we have had has been as fair as possible since you have to try to put similar abilities players on the same court. It makes for good exercise and good tennis matches when the players are pretty even.

As to how the BTC got into tennis. In 1968 the four Major Tournaments allowed professional players and TV started broadcasting more Tournaments. Equipment improved with Wilson and Prince coming out with the T2000 and aluminum and graphite composition racquets that were lighter and more powerful to use. The BTC, led by Phil Peecher started playing tennis in 1978. His Committee also included Ed Roche, Bob Riordan and Bill Cleary. Phil, an Architect by trade, and Bill were still playing in the early 2000's when I started with them. Al Baldermann, our current Tennis Chairman, started in 1979 with the Club and with the Tennis Group. He gave me a lot of information about our Clubs Fuzzy Ballers. Tennis was played at the Oak Lawn Tennis Club. There were so many players that they had two time frames, 3-5 pm and 5-7 pm. Gary Bybee told me that he couldn't get on the early shift unless someone was hurt or sick. They were using all 6 courts and even had a waiting list at one time to join them. By the time I joined with them in 2002 they had moved out of Oak Lawn into Wimbledon in Palos on Ridgeland Ave. However after a few years there they had to move again because courts were being changed to Racquetball. So for the last 22 years BTC Tennis has been played at the Park Forest Tennis Club. In 2002 there were still all 6 courts being used but we were down to about 30 players. Today that number is at about 20-24. Considering how many less Members we have in the Club that is still good and makes for some great matches. After Phil Peecher's Chairmanship, Ed Wood took over for many years. When he couldn't play anymore Gary Bybee was Chairman one year and Pat McShane took over until work forced him out and now Al Baldermann has been the Tennis Chairman since 2013. I hope that this gives you a little more input into the Tennis Group of the BTC and if you are interested all Members in good standing are welcome to try it out. There are two days of play now with tennis not only on Tuesdays from 3-5 pm but also on Thursdays from 10:30 am-12:30 pm. I hope that this was helpful and Thanks for listening.

Your Historian,
Bob Vizdal

Tennis Report – Al Baldermann

14 players. Lots of loud chatter, which means everyone was into the games and having a good time. After tennis 8 of us went to Enrico's for dinner. Good food. Good evening.

Results:

Court 1

Johnson	–	18/25
Heraty	–	12/25
Bewley	–	10/25
Ganz	–	10/25

Court 2

Abramowicz	–	13/20
Kosek	–	12/22
Schroeder	–	10/22
Kahlhammer	–	9/22
Kees	–	7/22

Court 3

Schiera	–	16/20
Baldermann	–	11/20
Schaefer	–	13/24
DiNolfo	–	8/24
Reschke	–	8/24

Please note we will be playing next week December 17th.

We will **not** be playing on Christmas Eve, December 24th.

We **will** be playing on New Year Eve, December 31st. However we will be playing **from 1:00pm to 3:00pm**. NOT our usual 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Bowling News

We just finished up our 1st position round of the season and the “B” division could not be any close. **Band of Brothers** are tied with **Oak Forest Bowl** while **Ascend Wealth Planning** is only 1 point back. In the “A” division **Beggars Pizza** has a 6 point lead on **Smoky's Bandits**. There is still plenty of time for these standings to change! We held a vote to approve our Prize list for the 2024-2025 Prize List and Prize List A was approved. Please see our Prize List in the newsletter.

As I announced before bowling **Ken Wisniewski** our league qualifier for the Beat the Champs contest will be in Hawaii on February 22nd and therefore will not be able to represent our league. Which means our 2nd place qualifier **Tom Ollenburger** will represent our league and bowl at Arena Lanes in the next round of the Beat the Champs Tournament.

Some of our top Individual handicap series this week were: **Randy Samoska 736, Vince Oliva 721, Dennis Samoska Jr. 717, Vince Annel 702, Jim Eppolito 698, Adam Valentinas 698, David Schwenn 695, John Race 693, Derrick Bay 692, Jay Skierkiewicz 689, Bill Slusarczyk 686, Mike McNamara 683, and Craig O'Reilly 681**. Our top scratch performers this week were: **Craig O'Reilly 230, 244, and a 681 series, Dennis Samoska Jr. 236, 228, and a 663 series, Scott Lee 223, and a 650 series, Randy Samoska 631 series, Jay Skierkiewicz 245 game, Jim Eppolito 242 games, John Race 223 game and Bob Vizdal 223 game**.

Once again if there are Builders Tee Club members that would like to get out this winter for some fun and camaraderie with their fellow members, it is not too late to join, everyone is welcome! Please text or call me at 708-912-8831, and I will do my best to find you a spot.

Keith Tadevich
Bowling Secretary
708-912-8831

Pots for the Week

<u>Handicap</u>		<u>1st Game</u>	<u>Doubles</u>	
Game 1	Derrick Bay 265	1st Place	Dennis Samoska Sr. &	498
	Adam Valentinas 253		Randy Samoska	
Game 2	Jay Skierkiewicz 287	2nd Place (tie)	Adam Valentinas &	474
	Vince Oliva 260		Joe Eppolito	
Game 3	Jim Eppolito 269	2nd Place (tie)	Derrick Bay &	474
	Randy Samoska 249		Mike Seebock	
	Vince Oliva 249	<u>2nd Game</u>		
		1st Place	Randy Samoska &	492
			Dennis Samoska Jr.	
<u>Mystery Pot</u>				
1st Game	No Winner	2nd Place (tie)	Vince Oliva &	482
			Greg Lewis	
2nd Game	Tim Magee 139	2nd Place (tie)	Vince Oliva &	482
	Roger Stewart 139		Tom Kelly	
<u>Last Game Handicap</u>		<u>3rd Game</u>		
1st Place	Joe Eppolito 269	1st Place	Randy Samoska &	495
2nd Place	Vince Oliva 249		Dennis Samoska Jr.	
		2nd Place	Vince Oliva &	483
			Bob Switek	
<u>Clean Pots</u>				
Forward(tie)	Bob Vizdal 11	<u>2nd Game Blind Doubles</u>		
Reverse	Craig O'Reilly 23	1st Game	Jay Skierkiewicz &	527
30	No Winner		Paul Kleinpaste	
<u>Handicap Survivor</u>		2nd Place	Jay Skierkiewicz &	510
1st Place	Vince Oliva 249		BenTutka	
2nd Place	Dennis Samoska Jr. 246	3rd Place	Dwight Hammond &	503
3rd Place	Bill Slusarczyk 236		Vince Oliva	

Corner Pin was not Run

<u>"A" Division</u>				<u>Standings</u>	<u>"B" Division</u>			
#	Builders Tee Club	W	L		#	Builders Tee Club	W	L
2	Beggars Pizza	33	9		4	Band of Brothers	24	18
10	Smokey's Bandits	27	15		11	Oak Forest Bowl	24	18
1	Arena Lanes	23	19		7	Ascend Wealth Planning	23	19
5	Traitors	22	20		3	Bright Metals	16	26
6	Creative Colors	19	23		8	Burr Oak Bowl	16	26
9	Tri-Star	18	24					

<u>Lane Assignments</u>						
Lanes	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8	9 & 10	11 & 12
12/17/2024	10 vs. 6	11 vs. 1	3 vs. 8	12 vs. 2	7 vs. 4	9 vs. 5
1/7/2025	5 vs. 7	4 vs. 12	2 vs. 10	1 vs. 9	6 vs. 8	3 vs. 11

INCOME:

BOWLING FEES:	55 BOWLERS	X	\$28.00	X	23 WEEKS	\$35,420.00
SPONSOR FEES:	11	TEAMS	X	\$125.00		\$1,375.00

ADDITIONAL INCOME:

BURR OAK BOWL DONATION						\$1,000.00
(\$2000 TOTAL - \$1000 TO LEAGUE + \$1000 TO CALCUTTA)						\$-

TOTAL INCOME:**\$37,795.00****EXPENSES:**

BOWLING FEES:	55 BOWLERS	X	\$11.00	X	23 WEEKS	\$13,915.00
BEAT THE CHAMPS	55 BOWLERS	X	\$5.00			\$275.00
PINS OVER AVERAGE	55 BOWLERS	X	\$5.00			\$275.00

PAYOUTS:

TEAM PLACEMENT MONEY - EACH DIVISION EACH HALF

1st:	\$750.00
2nd:	\$725.00
3rd:	\$700.00
4th:	\$690.00
5th:	\$680.00
6th:	\$670.00

\$4,215.00 X 2 DIVISIONS X 2 HALVES

\$16,860.00

LESS 6TH PLACE FOR DIVISION B

CHAMPIONSHIP ROLLOFF:

\$(1,340.00)

1st:	\$600.00
2nd:	\$500.00
3rd:	\$400.00
4th:	\$300.00

TOTAL

TOTAL

\$1,800.00

END OF THE YEAR SWEEPER:

\$100.00 X

7 TEAMS

\$700.00

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:

GAMES AND SERIES (SCRATCH & HANDICAP)

1st:	\$50.00	X	\$4.00
2nd:	\$40.00	X	\$4.00
3rd:	\$30.00	X	\$4.00

TOTAL

\$480.00

TEAM AWARDS:

GAMES AND SERIES (SCRATCH & HANDICAP)

1st:	\$100.00	X	\$4.00
2nd:	\$75.00	X	\$4.00
3rd:	\$60.00	X	\$4.00

TOTAL

\$940.00

HIGH AVERAGE:

1st:	\$42.00
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\$42.00

POINTS MONEY

POINTS AVAILABLE	42 POINTS	X	\$2.00	X	22 WEEKS	\$1,848.00
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OTHER EXPENSES:

BOWLING BANQUET	80 BOWLERS	X	\$25.00			\$2,000.00
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BALANCE 0.00