

Paddle Up Pickleball League

This past summer, Paddle Up was created by Monte Gaddis, the founder of Cleveland Rugby League and The Little Leagues Youth Program.

Monte, on a mission to mentor youths through sports, encouragement, and inspiration, created Paddle Up to draw more interest to the game of pickleball. He then collaborated with the City of Beachwood to create a summer pickleball league.

Throughout the summer, players of all ages and playing levels socialized, promoted fitness, and created a community.

Although the league included both beginner and intermediate players, ratings were secondary to the community built.

"We had two six-week sessions and plan to have a third next year," said Monte. "Plus, since there were so many inquisitive kids who showed up each

week, we also plan to add youth opportunities next year."

Monte incorporates his programs into school sports curriculum to build sportsmanship and help students expand their athletic abilities.

Paddle Up gives a huge shoutout to all players, staff, and everyone who plays at the courts; as well as special thank yous to Derek Schroeder, Community Services director; Frank Vicchiarelli, program manager; and Ryan Kennedy, graphic designer, for their support in creating this league.

"Our goal was to form a community club with no judgment; one where everyone gets to learn, compete, and most of all have fun," Monte said.

To learn more, email PaddleUpUSA@gmail.com. Also, be sure to check www.beachwoodrec.com for this spring's schedule.



Winners, Season 1

- Mike and Meghan Kinnan (Mid Court Crisis – above)
- Karl Koster and Jesse Cheng (Squeaky Pickles – top left, with Monte Gaddis)

Winners, Season 2

- Mike and Meghan Kinnan (Mid Court Crisis – above)
- Guy and Renee Greller (Greatest Grellers – left)

Beachwood Arts Council Turns 60 on Friday, Oct. 25!

Beachwood Arts Council proudly announces its 60th anniversary on Friday, Oct. 25. In October 1964, a group of residents organized a weekend arts fundraiser for Beachwood High School; it was so successful that the group formed the Beachwood Arts Council, which received its non-profit 501 (c)(3) status in 1968.

The group used to meet and present programs and events in the church that was located on the corner of Richmond Rd. and Fairmount Blvd. Then, when the church was demolished, Beachwood Community Center became BAC's permanent home.

BAC nurtures, promotes, and celebrates the visual and performing arts in Northeast Ohio. It offers programs, exhibits, scholarships, concerts, and more that are designed as opportunities to cultivate creativity and a sense of community.

BAC exhibitions feature artists of local and national acclaim; the Ileen Kelner Juried High School Art Show, which includes more than 20 high schools in Northeast Ohio; and the Beachwood K-12 Art Show and Music Program.

Additional details include:

- Tours of museums, galleries, private collections, homes, gardens, and artists' studios.
- Music, dance, and speaker programs.
- Art workshops (*see page 23 for current details*).
- The Si and Shirley Wachsberger Arts Scholarship Award, which is awarded annually.
- In April 1991, BAC purchased *Family Suite*, the stainless steel sculpture by renowned Ohio artist, Stephen Canneto, that is positioned in front of the City Hall on Richmond Road.

- In July 2023, BAC presented to the City of Beachwood its Free Little Art Gallery (FLAG), which is installed outside the side door of the Beachwood Community Center. People have the opportunity to take a piece of art and give a piece of art in return – like a Free Little Library.
- BAC also has a permanent piece of art – a series of collages designed and created by Shari Wolf, a former BAC trustee. This series, which hangs in the Beachwood Community Center atrium by the side door, represents different aspects of the arts. It was also a gift to the city. BAC is thrilled with its placement because they proudly call the Beachwood Community Center their home!



Beachwood Art Council has been enriching life through the arts for 60 years and plans to hold a celebratory event this spring. Be sure to watch for more details in upcoming issues of *Beachwood Buzz!*



Beachwood Arts Council's original home.