



Trails Newsletter

March 01, 2025

20,000 Bees & 14 Sprinklers & 1 Flower

If the month of February had 30 days like many other months, this newsletter would have reached you on time, which is the first of the month. But dang, a month that only has 28 days does pass quickly. Glad there is only one of them every year, if that. Apologies for the late delivery of this newsletter.

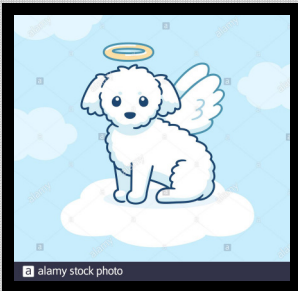
February was overall a nice month for Trails tennis. After the disappointing previous two months, February delivered great weather for tennis players. Accordingly, our courts were nicely busy.

And just as the weather got better

and more people played tennis again, your club was (and is) dealing with two slightly unusual maintenance issues: 20,000 bees, and 14 sprinklers. Read more on the back page.

Other than that, it was a fairly calm month with no real highlights or lowlights.

March and April will include resurfacing of the remaining tennis two courts, repainting of the clubhouse deck, and a new clubhouse roof. There is always something.



Cookie in Heaven

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New Members

No new members in February. Maybe the month was too short for that. Thankfully, March will be longer. 😊 Also, a couple of long

missed players will make their eagerly awaited return from the injury/illness list. Be surprised whom you might find on your court soon, too. 😊.

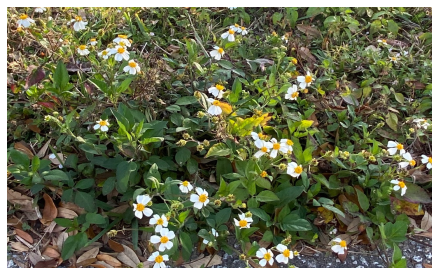
Preview: Art Exhibit

Many of our members have already seen or met Trails' newest coach, Logan Oldenburg. Logan is not only a qualified tennis coach. When not on a tennis court, Logan can often be found in his open air atelier creating large sale contemporary abstract art.

A show of his work is planned in the tennis clubhouse for early summer. And a preview of his style of art will be available before that. Or you can google his name and get a pre-preview yourself any time.



20,000 Bees & 14 Sprinklers & 1 Wildflower



In some ways, a 50 year old property is always some construction site. If it is not one thing, it is the other that breaks. It is also always full of surprises.

First surprise was the bees' nest. Its size, to be more specific. It had been under the shed by court 8 since the second half of last year. Turns out that by now 20,000 bees had made their home there, according to the expert bee hunter hired for that occasion. The bees were extracted on March 01 and given to a professional bee keeper (left guy on the first photo) who will use them for honey, wax, etc. The Trails Racquet Club has certainly done its fair share of nurturing and growing the local honey bee population.

Next thing that broke was a part of the court sprinkler system. It had had a small leak already for some months. While trying to find and fix the leak, we accidentally broke the pipe that feeds the 14 sprinklers on courts 3 and 4. The pipe repair is

complicated and seems like something that should be done by professionals, so we called an irrigation company. Waiting for their arrival any day now.

Lastly, an observant member of the Trails Racquet Club pointed out the club's ample supply of Beggarticks, an edible Florida wildflower. That's one way of cutting down high food prices. Help yourself to the plants where you see them. For easy identification, use the photo below this article. A local chef recommends for best flavor using only young shoots for your salad.

With the bees and the sprinklers somewhat under control, our focus now will be the clubhouse roof and the deck. The first roof estimate came in much higher than expected, so now we are waiting for a second estimate. And more deck will get painted on the weekends March 8/9 and 15/16 – weather permitted. Volunteers are always welcome!!

Dear members of the Trails Racquet Club,

The switch to daylight saving time next Sunday will give all of us an extra hour of tennis time in the evening. Why can't the government make this switch permanent? With all the stupid laws being passed, this would really be a smart one. Oh well, never give up hope. Longer days and warmer weather – just what tennis players want. Let us know if you want to get involved in matches. With all those returning players, there will be increased opportunities for everyone. Looking forward to seeing you on the courts often. Happy Trails,

Jan Buenner & Team

