

## On The Road

We recently returned from a road trip to visit family and friends in Oregon. Being hooked on pickleball we brought our gear with us, hoping to find some play time. We were well rewarded!

Our first game was on an unmarked tennis court. Our host brought a measuring tape, and we measured out a court, placed tape down, and then played over the tennis net. Of course, it was higher than a pickleball net but that did not stop us. We had lots of laughs when missing a return because we hit the top of the net. We appreciated the resourcefulness of our host making use of whatever was available.

Our next game was at a park with 6 pickleball courts where you could drop in and play from 9AM to 12PM. We asked how the system worked, and placed our paddles in the queue. When our paddles were in the next group of four, we walked over to the available court, played one game, then rotated out and put our paddles back in the queue.

It was extremely fun and gave us a break between games. By 11AM many players had left and we could play continuously; we made it to 11:30 before we were done! All the players were welcoming and having a good time, we felt like we were back here in The Villages.

This second format is similar to what we're doing with the Drop-In sessions we're trying. A couple of weeks ago we had the first Drop-In, but only about a dozen people attended. Of course, the 96-degree weather probably had something to do with that! The next Drop-In is on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM – mark your calendar now!

