

# The Drop Shot

Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club Jeff Tateosian. editor jefftat@pacbell.net 650.347.1439

**Upcoming Events** 

## May 2013

President's Message



Phil Zlatunich

Summer is still a month away, but you wouldn't know it by all the court activity lately. The sun is out and so are our members, soaking up the warm rays and practicing their tennis skills. Please come on down and join in on the fun.

A big thank you goes out to all the members who attended the April Membership Meeting. With 60+ members in attendance, this had to have been one of the best attended meetings since the capital improvement disscusion meetings a few years ago. Several issues were discussed including a vote, which passed, to repair and paint the back four courts during the first week of August. The financial status of the club was discussed as well as the Director of Tennis contract issues, which is still being negotiated. Members had an opportunity to express their feelings regarding the current Director of Tennis, resulting in a healthy and much needed conversation.

Inter-Club PTC vs. PGCC Saturday, May 11th PTC Junior Invitational Tournament Saturday & Sunday, May 18-19th van Dillen Men's Doubles Championship Saturday & Sunday, June 8-9th **Twilight Tennis & BBQ** Thursday, June 27th

## **Editor's Note**



Congratulations to *David* Bahktiari, son of Karl & Debbie, for being drafted in the 4th round of last month's NFL draft by the powerful Green Bay Packers. Standing at 6'4", 299,

Jeff Tateosian

David starred as an offensive tackle for the University of Colorado for the past 3 years. Fittingly, David's first pro game will be against the 49ers here at Candlestick on football's opening weekend. Good luck, David, but not too much luck that first game.

This past Saturday, the Tennis and Social Committees combined for a fabulous event. Beginning the tournament at noon instead of the usual 9:00 am start allowed the Saturday

morning players (thank you) their opportunity to play as usual. More importantly for the tournament, the noon start meant that it would end about 4:30pm, just in time to start the Cinco de Quatro party. This kept 95% of the players there to engage, rather than to have players come back 3-4 hours later if it started at 9:00 am. It worked to perfection and everyone had a wonderful time. Nice to think out of the box once in a while.

## Manager's Corner



PTC is looking to hire lifeguards for the upcoming summer season. Please stop by my office to apply if you are over the age of 16 and have your current lifeguard and CPR certification.

Lona Means

The USTA is currently signing

**up teams** for summer league play. Please let me know if you would be interested in captaining a USTA Mixed 18 & over team, or a USTA adult 55 and over team. The playing season is June 17th through September 8th.

With all of the recent spills, a reminder to please don't bring coffee, Gatorade, soda or any other drinks onto the tennis courts except water.

Any questions or concerns, call me at 650 347–1439, manager@ptctennis.com or stop by my office.



**Club Anniversaries for May (5+ years)** Congratulations to the following members:

Mario & Robin Alioto	15 Years
Mickey & Linda Podolsky	5 Years
Marilee Brooks	5 Years

## **Tennis Activities News**



Our Spring Fling Team Tennis Tournament sailed along nicely. A good time was had by all. Special thanks to *Maggie Blumberg, Kim Cresci,* and *Valerie March* for all your time and effort to putting on a successful tournament. Special

Ken March

kudos to **Brian Heimbecker** for the signage – nice touch. Our next and last Team Tennis event will not take place until the Fall, so if you were unable to participate in the first two, earmark your calendar for Sept. 12th.

Congratulations to our Spring Fling Team Tennis Champions Marsha Heimbecker, Elizabeth Pratt, Rich Moore, Ben Chew, Matt Maloney and captain Joan Holland. Second place went to captain Erica Reilly, Kay Coskey, Carey Welsh, (and our young guns) Chuck Callaghan, Marv Charney, Craig Andrews.

**Our first Inter-Club will be** taking place Saturday, May 11th from 12:30–4:30 pm vs. PGCC. It will be an afternoon of spirited tennis. We will be using courts 1–3 and 7. Those of you who haven't yet participated in an Inter-Club and are interested, please let Lona or myself know for the next one. Thank you *Mark Pearcy* and *Maggie Blumberg* for getting the team

together.

As many of you may know by now, our Men's (*Peter Stevenson & Scott With*) and Women's (*Marsha & Brian Heimbecker*) doubles pilot ladders are up and running. Many matches have been played with the feedback being very positive. The added "xtra" of it being a ladder match has made for some spirited matches among friends. Thank you to those participating. And to those who did not sign up, we are looking forward to opening the ladder to the entire Club in early July after our initial two month trial ends. Keep an eye out for the July start date.

Our next big tournament will be the van Dillen Men's Doubles Championship on June 8-9th. Mark your calendars. The sign-up sheet will go up in the club house by Sunday, May 12th. This is a great event with some of the best doubles played at the Club during the year. The finals will be Sunday, June 9th starting around noon. The annual party for the players as well as all Club members will take place on Saturday evening, June 8thlf you are not playing and would like to join us at the party, please sign-up in the club house or call Lona. As usual, this will be a can't miss event...

Have a safe May with graduations and summer almost here. See you around the Club.

## House & Grounds News



Last month, the new ball machine was purchased with money from the Fortrell Fund. These donated funds from the Fortrell family are dedicated for the purchase of tennis specific items only, so essentially the membership didn't have to

Phil Zlatunich

shoulder the expense. There are operating instructions attached to the machine and *Lona* or I can give you a guick tutorial should you need help. *Happy hitting*.

Our terrific maintenance employee, Jose, is looking for a better means of transportation to and from the club. Currently he rides the bus or train from South San Francisco to work. If anyone knows of a reasonably priced, used automobile for sale, please give him the information.

#### Current List of H&G projects:

- Flooring replacement (Women's locker rooms) Board to revisit entire scope.

- Flooring replacement (Junior locker rooms) -On Hold-Tentative schedule August.

- Court Crack repair - Painting #4 thru 7 -Approved, August 5-9, 2013, start.

- Video Cam Upgrade - Cost analysis / feasibil-

ity study in progress - Club House / Court Sound System -Committee equipment selection / review / budgeting, underway. - Lights - Review previous Board progress, Feasibility / Development Phase. - Clubhouse bar area, big room ceiling / Kitchen painting - Schedule TBD - Furniture Replacement - ADC Review / Fiscal Budgeting for 2014–15 - Club House Library bookshelves / ACD Club House Development / PC Review

- Card Key entry / Security System - Discussion / Review / Feasibility



## **Membership** News

The Membership Committee is **pleased** to announce that we have two new applicants. Ron **Pang** is a 4.5-level player who brings a lot of enthusiasm and athleticism to the game. I've played him twice and watch out.

lane Pearcy

He can hit a mean overhead.

**Brad Craig** is pleased to sponsor **Kevin Smith** and his wife *Carolyn Johnson*. Kevin is a solid 3.5-level player who will be out on the courts frequently once he comes off injured reserve. We look forward to their becoming a part of the PTC family.

As always, if you know someone who would be a good addition to the Club, invite them down for a tour with *Lona* or send an e-mail to me and I'll make contact mjpearcy@sbcglobal.net.

## Social Events News



The post-tennis Spring Fling/Quatro de Mayo party was a hit. The club house was filled with tennis players, many of whom were joined by their families to enjoy a full Mexican dinner. We also had a good number of members who just came down to enjoy the party

on a beautiful evening. The weather was perfect so the party spilled out onto the patio where we held a blind tequila tasting. I was impressed with the palates of our male members....four of whom correctly named all three tequilas. Since there was a bottle of Patron at stake, we held a "shot off," requiring the four to each take an additional taste and make a final guess. The big winners were **Peter Stevenson** and **Matt Maloney**.

A huge thank-you to all who helped make it a fun fiesta. *Tery Zlatunich* worked closely with La Fonda to ensure we had plenty of fajitas and enchiladas for the hungry crowd. She was also instrumental in decorating the club house, along with Paige Austin, Marsha & Brian Heimbecker, Ken March and Phil Zlatunich. We had many helping hands once the food arrived, including *Lona*, *Val March and Mary Eliason.* And it wouldn't be a party without DJ *Jeff*....a huge thank you for setting up music on the patio. Leave it him to have some Sammy Hagar to play while the guys tossed back shots of Cabo Wabo tequila. Thanks, as always, to *Stuart Batchelor* for lending us his keg tap and Margarita machine. Our thirsty tennis players appreciated it. Last, but not least, we have to give honorable mention to our Chief Taco.... *lim Sobel*. Nobody struts the taco costume quite like you, Jim.

#### Next up is the van Dillen Men's

**Championship** dinner on June 8th. This tends be one of our classier events for the year and it is open to all, not just those playing in the tournament. Mark your calendars and join us for dinner. *Nancy Batchelor* has graciously offered to take the lead in planning this event, and we all know she has plenty of experience. If you are interested in helping us, let me or Nancy know.

## **Special Projects**



#### **Red Flag Rule**

As a former Club President, but current Board Member assigned "Special Projects," I am a bit of a minister without a portfolio. Regardless, I do have one "Special Project" to announce. After much painstaking work on my part: the Board has clarified and

Chris Cooke

amended the red flag warning rules. The old rule, not always followed, was actually that if the red flag goes up, and you have already played 2 sets of doubles or 1 set of singles, you must give up the court. The rule was not, as many seemed to believe, that you could finish your existing set.

Since the rule was not strictly followed, the Board has decided on a compromise: if you have already played your allotted amount and the red flag goes up, you may complete your existing set by playing a 10 point (super) tie breaker. This was suggested to me by several Club members, and the Board agrees that it makes sense. So members, please take note of this new rule. Be sure to let me know if you have any other concerns or items that I can address as the roving Board Member without a portfolio.

Peninsula Tennis Club ~ 80 Nears of Tennis

## **Director of Tennis News**



ADULT TENNIS George Parker shared a terrific tennis program with me this month. George kept the 1993 International Tennis Federation year-end

program and stored it in his

Riaz Shivji USPTA

book collection. He came across it and thought of me as we had discussed our collections. He thought I would like to add it to my collection. Thanks, George. If you would like to check it out, drop by the tennis office. It's very cool.

**Congratulations to** *Dyle Anderson.* He is ranked # 6 in the US in Grandfather/Grandson Doubles for 2013. Dyle and his grandson, *Addison,* who had trained with our academy when visiting from San Diego, played in the West Coast Nationals and came in 2nd place. Dyle said his slice serve was a killer and that Addison ran everything down, just how he likes it. *Well Done, Dyle.* 

#### **USTA Team News**

From *Mickey Podolsky*, Captain of 3.0 AND 3.5 Men - Our team of age 40+ warriors had a great year making it to the Playoffs in our inaugural season, but losing a very close, hard fought battle with Foster City on April 21st. Many thanks to the guys for their efforts and to our coach *Riaz* for his time with the team.

From *Marisa Wachhorst*, Captain of 3.5 Women – We are off to a great start for our 3.5 USTA Ladies 18 and over season. *Adrienne Schubiner* and I are happy to captain a great group of Ladies. Some of our players are enjoying the "Doubles Academy" with *Riaz* on Wednesday evening. Please contact him if you are interested in participating.

From **Barbara Freethy**, Captain of 4.0 Women – It's been a tough start as 3 of our 4 losses have been by a score of 2–3, so we are close, oh very close. Members...this team is looking for a couple of silky, agile singles players. I'm sure they'll take tough and gritty too. Contact me to join the team.

From *John Kohli*, Captain of 4.5 Men – The 4.5 Men are holding their own in the always competitive 11–team Mid–Peninsula league. Three of the four matches thus far have been played to the wire, with

the fifth individual match still on the court being the tie-breaker determining the overall match outcome. In the two team wins the final tie-breaking match was won in singles, with *Rick Soss* and *Brian Nappi* each pulling out big wins for the our team. PTC has once again combined forces with PGCC in this division, with *David Bressie* of PGCC doing a magnificent job handling the co-captaining duties.

From *Kristen Nisewaner*, Captain of 3.0 Women – *Barbara Trainor* and *Paige Austin* have joined our energetic Women's USTA 3.0 Team. We welcome them aboard and are looking forward to a season of fun and camaraderie.

#### LESSONS / CLINIC INFO

USPTA Certified Professionals *Riaz* and *Albert* are ready and available to help you improve your game. We use iPad video analysis and telestrator tools to help you dissect your strokes and build core fundamentals, which are the hallmark of all strong players. We are having much success teaching members of all abilities our Academy four-step ground strokes. Take a lesson and see for yourself.

#### Current lesson availability -

Tuesday 12:00-1:00 pm Wednesday 12:00-1:00 pm Thursday 2:30-3:30 pm Friday 2:00-5:00 pm Saturday 3:00-5:00 pm

#### Current Team clinics we are running:

W3.0 - Wednesday 1:00-2:30 pm W3.5 - Wednesday 5:30-7:00 pm

#### JUNIOR TENNIS RS TENNIS ACADEMY

2013 Summer Junior Camps (June 17-August 16). Sign up now.

Sign-ups are being taken now for our weekly summer tennis camps. Our camps run one to two hours depending on level. Weekly sessions run Monday-Friday from 12:30-4:30 pm. We welcome children of all abilities ages 4-18 and we also welcome non-PTC members. Bring your friends and have a fun and memorable summer tennis experience. To register visit – www.rstennis.com

#### **RS MONTHLY TIP**

Poor shot selection is one of the main reasons club players lose points on a regular basis, but the good news is you don't have to. The line between bad shot selection and poor technique for some players is so thin it becomes difficult to see. There's probably no better example in the club game than when a player is placed under pressure, pushed out wide and off the court. They have very little court to aim at and even less time to make the shot, so what do they do? When you're faced with a scenario like this, you do have options. The No. 1 strategy, which is underused, is to learn how to play and execute the high moonball or lob to buy yourself time. Putting the ball up high into the air and trying to land it deep into your opponent's court buys you time. It can also force your opponent to back up and continue the point from a position where he or she no longer has the advantage. Making a play such as this, when your opponent is very much on the attack, is called neutralizing. It's a strategy far too many club players either don't know about or choose to ignore. Neutralizing becomes even more important when you consider that most matches, especially at the recreational level, are lost on the amount of errors, not winners. The better you become at recognizing who has the

upper hand during points and how to correctly react to the situation, the better your oncourt strategy will become and the more matches you will win. Try this and let me know how it works for you. I have a special gift for any member that I see trying this and eventually winning the point.

Thanks to the mystery member/s for the lovely orchid for the RS Team. It is blooming lovely. **RS** 



Quatro de Mayo - Mr. Taco



Tequilla Tasting Contest winners





1st Place - Spring Fling Tournament



Second Place - Spring Fling Tournament

