The Drop Shot

Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club Jeff Tateosian, editor 650.347.1439 jeff@ptctennis.com

June 2009

President's Update



Everyone should get to know *leff Tsu*. Known as "Chef

men players. Whatta quy!

Rob Delantoni leff" to some for his many appearances as the unofficial PTC BBQ cook, his other talents include his ability to play tennis either right handed or left - handed, having two championship tennis kids (Forrest and **Brooke**), maintaining a condo at Indian Wells just for PTC members (that's the way I understand it, anyway), and maintaining a men's locker stuffed with liquor for the general enjoyment of our sweaty thirsty

What better way to kick off the coming of summer than a great Junior tournament. Many thanks to *Riaz* and his hard working crew of PTC volunteers for running such a fun and exciting junior tournament two weeks ago. I was able to record a few of the matches on court one on DVD, so if any of you PTCers had kids playing on court one during the tournament and want the DVD, just let me know.

Water on the Brain Dept: your hard working Board continues to make progress to bring water to Court 7. Currently, we are planning how best to run the water line

Upcoming Events

Men's Club Singles Tournament Ongoing

> van Dillen Cocktail Party June 6

van Dillen Men's Doubles Championship June 6 - 7

Twilight Tennis/New Member Welcome June 18

Men's Singles Championship Final June 28

from our clean water source (it needs to go under or around a concrete pathway). But while on the waterfront, consider this: I have been hearing from many members the past few years that modern athletic thinking is that room temperature water is much healthier for you to drink than cold water. But the current issue of Tennis Magazine, citing a British study, reports that "drinking cold water . . . reduces physiological strain and helps you tire less than ... drinking the same amounts of water at body temperature." Although I rarely drink water at 98.6 degrees, I'm going back to my old school ways of drinking cold (really cold) water when I play. Now if they would just declare hot dogs a healthy and nutritious food . . .

By the time you read this, **Betty Cookson** will have returned from Kansas City with

(we hope) another senior national doubles title. And *Dyle Anderson* is getting ready for another jaunt down south to (hopefully) win another gold ball in 80's doubles. Reports are that they both attribute their tennis longevity and championship form to many years of drinking really cold water.

Many thanks to *Barbara van Dillen* for her help with the redesign and remodeling of our Junior Room (still a work in progress), and to those club members who are helping evaluate a new upper body fitness machine in the fitness room. The club continues to improve in many small ways (at least small compared to the CIP project), and shortly should be ready for the best summer ever. Personally, I have "soft" dates and am looking forward to playing with new(er) members *Tim McMurdo* and *Todd Friedman* this summer, and hope that all of you "older" members are continuing to actively seek out our newer members for tennis.

See you at the club.

Editor's Note



Congratulations to former PTC member *Gary Lee* for being inducted into the 2009 USTA NorCal Hall of Fame. Now living in Lincoln, CA, he was a member of the PTC from 1975 until 2003. Gary was one of

the guys who you could always depend on being involved with the many club sponsored tournaments and activities. He even chaired the Junior Hard Courts a couple of years while the were away. Over the years, Gary focused on his three daughters as they developed into outstanding tournament players. All three received college scholarships for their playing ability. As for

USTA, Gary's volunteer accolades span 25 years and include Brittania Cup Team Captain, Fed Cup Committee Chair, many USTA Board positions including Pacific Region Vice President and he currently serves on the Olympic Committee. He may be best known for his work that led to the formation of the Multicultural Participation Committee (MPC), which started in NorCal and eventually spread nationally. "Seeing the improvement and diversity throughout the years is why I have been a volunteer for so long," says Gary. You can catch the whole article on Gary in the May issue of Inside Tennis. For those who do not know, current PTC members Werner Yee & Bob Ia are his brother-in-laws. Now that's a tennis family!

Manager's Corner



from 12:30 pm to 5:30 pm.

A couple of reminders:

1. Children ten and under require attentive adult super-

Beginning on June 15th, the PTC will staff a Lifequard

vision around the pool and spa area while lifeguard is on duty.

- 2. Youths under seven are not permitted in the spa at any time.
- 3. From 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm the spa is reserved for adult use only. No one under 18 is permitted to use the spa during these hours regardless if the spa is being used by adults or not.

The concrete decking will be power washed (extremely noisy) and sealed from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm daily from June 1st until completed. We appreciate your patience while this necessary maintenance is performed.

Please take a look for any lost items in

the lost and found now located in the ladies locker room.

I'm looking forward to a fantastic summer here at the club.

Club News

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

Scott & Judy Erickson 10 Years David & Shelley Kneapler 10 Years

We are sad to see *Gary & Patricia Wolfe* resign from the club. They have been a member since 1996.

A Super Senior (age 60) 4.0 USTA team is currently being formed. If you fit these prerequisites and are interested, please contact team captains *Jim Friedman & John Stone.*

Tennis Activities News

This weekend brings us the ever-popular van Dillen Men's Doubles

Championships. Play will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday and conclude with the finals on Sunday. Be sure to stop



Kelly Kemp

by to root for your favorite teams.

The Men's Club Singles Championship Final will be on Sunday June 28th. We always have a great crowd to witness the best of the best, so please join us.

House & Grounds News

You can lead a horse to water, but why can't we get a fountain at the PTC? You saw in Rob's note that we are still working the issue. After conferencing with our plumber we were advised that we needed to seek a pure source for our water



Stuart Batchelo

supply and there within lies the problem. Our nearest water supply is by court 5 and getting the water to the proposed fountain location is like building the Panama Canal. We are looking at some alternatives until we can get this issue resolved.

Door Locks, the main BHS and Chatham doors are now on an automatic timer. The doors will unlock at 8:30 each day (seven days a week) and relock at 5:00 PM. At all other times members need to bring their key to gain entry. Interior doors are locked by the staff and this is on a separate schedule. Also, the gates by Courts 4 & 7 are being re-keyed. Members will not be able to use these gates as a means of entering and exiting the Club.

Maintenance is an ongoing concern at the Club and to that end we need everyone's patience and understanding. Here is a list of activities you should be aware of.

- Monday Mornings Back Court Washing
- Tuesday Mornings Front Court Washing
- Daily (M-F Mornings) Auto Pool Sweep
- Spring (April-May) Switching Windscreens on Front Courts
- Spring (May-June) Power Washing of the Concrete
- Fall (Oct-Nov) Switching Windscreens on Front Courts
- Fall (Sept-Dec) Removal of Leaves from the Courts

Tennis Courts – you may have spotted a fairly long crack close to the baseline on Court 5. Our tennis court contractor says that there is little they can do to provide anything but a very short term fix to this problem. They actually indicate that trying to patch the crack will only cause it to come back bigger and wider. The recommendation is that we should do our best to live with it until such time that we are ready to do an overlay of the courts. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Pool/Spa - The club is now in full compliance with the new federal "Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act." We were required to install anti-entrapment drain grates in both the pool and the spa. As you might recall I was seeking scuba equipment to permit us to do the job ourselves, but we don't seem to have any divers in the club. Member *Dave Marcus* came to the aid in the form of his friend Rex Boggs who is a recreational diver and came to the clubs assistance. As seen in this picture, Dave is working to replace the covers at the deep end of the pool. Our thanks to Dave and Rex for their help.

Exercise Room – thanks to *Dennis Mayer* for obtaining additional weights, resistance bands, and medicine balls for the exercise room. A new rack to house the weights should be here by mid–June. In June we will be doing some maintenance to the equipment to keep it in top running order. We will send out an email to let you know when this is scheduled as we will need to close the room for one afternoon.

Membership News

During May, we had one family submit their application.
They are:
Rob Kotmel & Maja Nelson Laura Heselgren (Sponsor)
Iim Sobel (Seconder)



Becky Showen

Social Events News



Nancy Batchelor

Come join us for the van Dillen Doubles
Championship Cocktail
Party this Saturday, June 6,
2009. Raise a toast to a
great tradition of doubles
championships at the PTC.
5pm - 7pm. \$10 per person.

Tournament players as well as all members are encouraged to attend. RSVP via the evite invitation each of you should have recently received via email. If you did not receive the evite or would like to RSVP alternately, please call or email Lona with your response. (347–1439 or manager@ptctennis.com.)

Another event at the PTC not to miss is the first of our Summer Twilight Tennis events on Thursday, June 18. We will also take the opportunity to acknowledge our newest members. The fun begins at 5:30 with fun, round robin tennis (adults only for tennis) followed by a BBQ and music. The club will host the entree and beverages at the BBQ and each family is to bring a side dish or dessert for 10 people. BBQ begins approximately at 7pm. Fun for the whole family. You must sign up in the clubroom in advance and indicate what you will be bringing. \$8 per person. \$10 at the door

without prior RSVP.

If you would like to help organize social events at the club, please let *Dennis Mayer* (dennis@acestudio.com) or *Nancy Batchelor* (nnb@yahoo.com) know and we can include you in our meeting schedule. Most needed right now are help setting up and cleaning up the upcoming Twilight Tennis events.

Also mark your summer calendar for Thursday, July 16th for our second Twilight Tennis event. Details will be in the July Drop Shot.

Director of Tennis News



Riaz Shivji USPTA

Academy p

Congratulations to

Academy players Taylor Chaparro, Palmer Mendelson, and Erik Chaney for their out-

IUNIOR TENNIS

standing performances in winning High School PAL titles in late May.

In practice we have been working on Taylor's transition play and it was in full force as he beat a very good player from Menlo Atherton on the Burlingame High School courts. He showed great poise and used an all-court game plan to win in straight sets. Palmer and Erik had too much firepower for their opponents from SMTO High. These two very athletic Juniors took it to SMTO and never let up as they cruised to the title losing only a few games. Much improved net play and positive attitudes helped our three stars to a great end to the PAL season.

Taylor will be off to study and play tennis at the University of Redlands and I am proud

to announce that for his outstanding volunteer service and commitment to the Junior Program he will be honored with the PTC College Merit Award. Congrats Chap!

The 7th Annual Junior Tennis Tournament on May 22–24 brought 62 Juniors here to compete with many youngsters also playing their first ever tournament right here at PTC. Our tournament is all about educating players on the right way to play competitive tennis and nurturing these young Juniors so they have a very positive experience and stay in the game long term.

Congratulations to all the Juniors for playing hard and more importantly showing outstanding sportsmanship and tennis netiquette all through the event.

Congratulations to our winners:

B12's Novice Singles – Jeffrey Liu

B12's Novice Doubles – Jeffrey Llu / Jimmy Zhang

G12's Novice Singles - Lindsey Pantuso

G12's Novice Doubles - Lindsey Pantuso / Halle Martinucci

B14's Challenger Singles - Eric Dennis

B14's Challenger Doubles - Steven Pantuso/ Danny Pantuso

G14's Challenger Singles - Jenna McGuirk G14's Challenger Doubles - Irina Haack /

Amanda Berke

B18's Open Singles - Taylor Chaparro B18's Open Doubles - Sean Talmadge / Ray

Worley

G18's Open Singles - Brooke Tsu

G18's Open Doubles - Zoe Davidson / Laura Galiian

A HUGE THANK YOU to all the volunteers that helped make this year's event one of our best: *Marci, Nancy B, Jenny, Debbie, Mark, Ron, Garrett, Nancy C, Joni, Batch, Taylor, Gigi, and Gabi*. A big thank you to our terrific sponsors for providing goods and services that enabled us to offer many

prizes and feed the players with a free lunch and BBQ. Please make a note of our generous sponsors:

Circle Video MP Architecture Sapore Italiano (Elio) Wilson Nike K-Swiss

Thanks to PTC for allowing RS Academy to host this great event for the club again. Many new players ages 8–17 and their parents came to PTC and said what a beautiful venue it was and what a well run event to participate in. Next year I'm thinking about adding an Adult / Junior doubles division!

SUMMER TENNIS

Junior Day is the kick off to our exciting summer tennis program. A FUN-filled afternoon full of tennis, swimming, and prizes led by Riaz and his crew of USPTA Staff. All PTC Member juniors ages 6 and up are welcome. We will play fun, fast-paced Quickstart games and drills for all levels with a Wilson sponsored hit for prizes session for registered Juniors. Parents of juniors under 8 years old must accompany their children.

Schedule for Junior Day:

1:00-1:30 pm - Registration. \$10 per Junior.

1:30 pm - Tennis Activities

3:00 pm - Tennis Netiquette Overview

3:30 pm - Wilson Hit for Prizes

4:00 pm - Swim (parents must be present and directly supervise their children according to posted age requirement rules).

5:00-5:30 pm - Pizza

JUNIOR DAY IS ON JUNE 15th. 1:30-5:30pm.

TO REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN FOR SUM-MER TENNIS CLINICS PLEASE VISIT WWW.RSTENNIS.COM

ADULT TENNIS

Team News

The PTC Men's 3.5 team got their first win last week over Foster City 4-1. Captain *Brian Peletta* is still claiming playoff hopes.

Captain *Barbara Freethy* reports the ladies 4.0 team is off to a great start and is currently in second place at the halfway mark in the season.

Captain *Tom Middlemass* writes that the Men's 4.0 team are back to their winning ways with a sweet 3-2 victory over Foster City/Edgewater. The team is currently 3-3.

Adult Drop-In Clinics are running well and there are a group of regulars that are coming out and enjoying the instruction, exercise, and camaraderie. If you would like to be added to the email list, please ping me.

The Men's Singles Tournament is in full swing and the Draws are up in the Clubhouse for all to look at. Players, please make sure to contact me with your scores so I can remind you of your next opponent and the date you must play by. The finals are scheduled for June 28th.

TIP OF THE MONTH

Most of the skills of our sport are learned from others. And, just like there's a range of quality in tennis teachers and parentcoaches, there's also a wide range of teaching effectiveness in general education. First, there's old school education, where children are lectured, or barked at, and nagged into either submission or pushed to the point of rejection and rebellion. On the other end of the spectrum is free-spirited, progressive education. Here children are put in a room with some books and learning tools with minimum supervision. They seldom learn the self-discipline to excel on their own. Somewhere in the middle lies a better way to learn.

One of the components I use for optimal learning is "guided discovery." No barking military style commands. The more effective option is to ask questions to elicit answers and actions. An example on a tennis court is to ask a player, "So what are you planning to do against this serve?" More often than not a player will have no plan except to just get it back. That can work but asking a player what he would like to do and having them try it are better ways to improve and also to teach better decision making.

The point is that coaches, and parents have choices. They can either give answers first or confirm the right answers last. Giving the answers first may appear like it saves time, but in the big picture it doesn't. We need to help our children's decision-making and problem solving skills. I like the phrase, "Talk less, Communicate More!" You need to show sufficient personal concern to encourage, and enough fun to keep them coming back for more!

June 2009

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|---|---|-----------|--|
| 31 1 PM - 5 PM Women's 4.0 Spring League | June 1 7 AM - 9 AM Court Washing - Courts 4-7 | 7 AM - 9 AM Court Washing - Courts 1-3 6 PM - 8 PM Men's 3.0 Spring League | 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Star Tennis | 6 PM - 8 PM Women's 3.5 Spring League | <u>5</u> | 9 AM - 2 PM Van Dillen Men's Doubles Championships |
| 9 AM - 2 PM Van Dillen Men's Doubles Championships | 8 | 9 | 10 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Star Tennis | 1 PM - 3 PM Super Senior Men 3.5 | 12 | 1 PM - 5 PM Men's 4.0 Spring League |
| <u>14</u> | 7 AM - 9 AM Court Washing - Courts 4-7 9 AM - 4 PM Junior Summer Camp Opening Day 6 PM - 8 PM Men's 3.0 Spring League | 7 AM - 9 AM Court Washing - Courts 1-3 | 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Star Tennis 6 PM - 8 PM Women's 3.5 Spring League | 4 PM - 7:30 PM Twilight Tennis & New Member Welcome | <u>19</u> | 1 PM - 5 PM Women's 4.0 Spring League |
| 1 PM - 5 PM Men's 3.5 Spring League | <u>22</u> | 6 PM - 8 PM Women's 3.5 Spring League | 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Star Tennis | 1 PM - 3 PM Super Senior Men 3.5 | <u>26</u> | <u>27</u> |
| 28 11 AM - 1 PM Men's Club Singles Championship Finals 1 PM - 5 PM Men's 3.5 Spring League | <u>29</u> | 6 PM - 8 PM Men's 3.0 Spring League | 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM Star Tennis 6 PM - 8 PM Women's 4.0 Spring League | 6 PM - 7 PM Men's 4.0 Spring League | 3 | 4 |
| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |