

## January 2012

### President's Message



*Rob Adams*

2012 is upon us and I am proud to announce that our new President is **Chris Cooke**. One of the club's better players, Chris did a great job heading up the Tennis Committee in 2011. I've known Chris since his daughter (**Maddie**), and my daughter (**Katie**) started Kindergarten at Washington School (both now High School Sophomores). Our families have been friends all these years, and we are lucky to have him as our next President. Chris brings a love of tennis, a keen mind, and great leadership to the position.

**When the new Board comes together**, Chris will let us know who is doing what. In the meantime, I look forward to spending my last year on the Board with **Chris, Mike, Dave, Jane, Tom, and Phil**...as well as working with **Lona and Riaz**.

Finally, many thanks to everyone at PTC for making 2011 such a great year, and for your support of me as the President. Do me a favor, when you see **Ron Martinucci, Karen Harrigan, and Jerry Ceglia** at PTC or around town, please thank them for their tremendous service to our club as they end their Board assignments.

### Upcoming Events

•  
**Quarterly Membership Meeting  
 November 15th**

•  
**Super Bowl Party & Chili Cook Off  
 February 5th - 2:30**

### Editor's Note



*Jeff Tateosian*

**Great news on the Bernardo family** ... they are moving into their newly rebuilt home in San Bruno this week. **Teddy's** family has been displaced since the explosion almost 17 months ago. Welcome home, Teddy.

**Congratulations to Burlingame High School girls' tennis player Brook Tsu** who was named the Daily Journal Girls' Tennis Player of the Year — the third year in a row she's been honored as such.

**A fun time was had by all (49er fans that is)** at the PTC during the 49er/Steeler Monday Night Football Game. It didn't seem like the blackouts made much difference to the Niners, as they played a pretty good game. Thank you to **Stuart & Nancy Batchelor** for organizing the event. How many of you flashed back to October 17, 1989 at 5:04 pm right before the World Series was to begin? It was a little eerie. Will we see both teams back in the Super Bowl? Be sure to mark Feb 5th for the annual PTC Super Bowl Party/Chili Cook Off. Please see Social News below for more details.

## The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

**Congratulations to Tom Middlemass, Jane Percy and Phil Zlatunich** for being selected to serve on the Board for the next couple of years. I have known each of these fine members prior to them becoming members at the club. Below you'll find a little background information about them and their families. Join me in thanking them for accepting their position on the Board.



**Phil Zlatunich** has been playing tennis since college, but began playing more seriously in the late 80's. He entered into many local tournaments, partnering with his two neighbors, **Glenn M.** and **Jeff T.** Though playing well, he put tennis on the backburner to

concentrate on coaching his two boys in multiple sports. As they grew older, he picked it up again and hasn't looked back.

Phil and his wife, **Tery**, have been members for just about six years. He says that his most memorable moment at the club was playing with Tery in their first mixed doubles match this past season, after years of trying to persuade her to take up the game. Phil works for Critchfield Mechanical in San Jose. Tery is the office manager (and "official" den mother) for an asset management firm in San Mateo. **Ian**, their oldest son ('85) has served eight years in the Military and is an Iraq War Veteran in the Army Reserves. He currently is a 4th year Sheet Metal trade apprentice with Phil's company. If you don't recognize a well-built 26 year-old on the courts hitting the snot out of the ball, it is probably Ian. **Paul** ('87) graduated from CSULB last year and is working for BayCreative in San Francisco as an Account Manager.

Tery and Phil were High School sweethearts. Phil attended Serra High while Tery graduated from Mills. They have been married happily since 1976. Besides tennis, Phil can play a mean guitar (he was something back in his hippy days at Washington Park). Otherwise he and Tery enjoy exploring the Wine Country together and traveling to tropical locations.

Phil is looking forward to serving on the Board, although the bar has been set pretty high for House & Grounds by **Stuart & Ron** over the past four years. He says that he hopes to be able to perform up to those standards.



**Tom Middlemass** and his wife, **Sabine**, have been members of the PTC since 2005. As the West Channel Sales Manager for Oracle, Tom is constantly traveling, though he is grateful for his weekly game on most Wednesdays. Sabine is the Digital Marketing Director for Virgin Airlines. Their daughter, **Elena**, is a 5th grader at Washington Elementary. She's been playing tennis for three years and has developed an awesome forehand under **Riaz's** tutelage. Their hobbies include skiing, traveling, hiking and cooking. In fact, they met in the mountains while skiing one weekend. They said it was love at first sight, and apparently, that was the last time they ever had to yell "single" while at the lift lines.

Tom has been playing tennis since he was nine years old. It's pretty obvious when you take a look at his form, especially his crosscourt backhand shot (within the top five in the club). Sabine has also taken to the courts with serious improvement over the last few years. Tom's most embarrassing moment at the club happens to be an ongoing one. He's terrible with names and often forgets who's who as he's walking the grounds. I know many of you can sympathize with him. On the other hand, his most memorable moment at the club was this year when he had his first 10-shot, heavy hitting, rally with this daughter. Tom lost the exchange and was handed a glimpse of the near future when he will no longer be the top player in the family. He's very OK with that. Tom and Sabine love the club and he looks forward to serving the club while on the Board.

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**Jane Percy** is the third new member joining the 2012 Board of Directors. Jane and husband, **Mark**, have been regulars on the PTC courts since 2002. Both have played for years with Jane starting at Ladera Oaks at the age of ten along with her parents. She was a leader

on the Crystal Springs High School team, and played intramurals in college. Mark has always been an athlete, whether on the tennis courts, basketball court or the volleyball pit. For those of you who have played against Mark, you know how hard it is to get the ball above or past him at the net. I have found his weak spot however - smash it to his mid-section so he has less time to extend those long arms. Both of them have played on many USTA teams, including a superior record on their mixed doubles matches together.

They have two beautiful daughters, **Marian** (92) and **Susanna** (94). Marian is a sophomore at UC Davis, majoring in environment science. She recently joined the UC Davis Tennis Club and hits the ball around on Friday nights. Susanna is a senior at Crystal Springs Uplands School and plays on the J.V. Tennis Team. She is involved in the RS Tennis Academy clinics. Susanna works the PTC club parties and occasionally at the snack bar.

Jane also helps members daily as an associate with **Anthony** at the Tennis Station. Mark owns his own Residential architectural business. Asked where they first met, Jane laughed and said it was at work. Her Dad called it, "Fishing off the Company Dock." She was actually the first person to greet Mark on his first day. The bosses told her that she had to "take care of the new guy," and being the consciousness employee, Jane said, "so I did!" A few of her co-workers went out every Thursday night and they invited him to go with them. Every week he said, "maybe," ...but never showed up. The rest of the week Jane says she would "chase him around the office." He finally met up with the group on Jane's 25th birthday! That turned out

to be quite a present, as they have been together ever since.

Jane's most embarrassing moment at the club might be her most memorable one too. She hit **David Marcus** square in the eye with a volley, but luckily had the presence of mind to take note of the score before she tended to him because she and **Mark Showen** were up 40-0 and didn't want to let a little bloody eye ruin their chance for victory! Welcome Jane, the Board can always use someone with your sense of humor (and competitiveness).

## Manager's Corner



Lona Means

**The USTA senior season** (age 50+ by December 31, 2012) runs from mid-January through March 31st. It's not too late to sign up to participate, if you are interested please contact the following captains:

- **Linda Podolsky** 3.5 Women's Team  
[lpodo@aol.com](mailto:lpodo@aol.com)
- **Philip Marson** 3.5 Men's Team  
[phil.marson@aol.com](mailto:phil.marson@aol.com)
- **Natalie Vasiliev** 4.0 Women's Team  
[nataliedv@msn.com](mailto:nataliedv@msn.com)
- **Dennis Argyres** 4.0 Men's Team  
[dennisargyres@hotmail.com](mailto:dennisargyres@hotmail.com)

USTA adult season (age 18+) runs from March 26th through June 30th - more information to follow.

**Riaz, Mary, Jose Ruiz, Jose Rodriguez** and I, along with our part-time seasonal employees would like to thank all the PTC members for their very generous contributions to the Holiday Fund. We all very much appreciate your generosity and wish you and your families a happy and healthy 2012!

Contact me at [manager@ptctennis.com](mailto:manager@ptctennis.com) or 650-347-1439 with any questions or concerns. Happy Tennis!

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## Club News

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

**Craig Zimmerman**                      35 Years

**Bridge Lessons** – Join “Play of the Hand” Bridge classes at the PTC, beginning January 26th. ACBL Certified Instructor will be on hand. Class size limit is four students. Contact **Cecile** at [cycoar@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cycoar@sbcglobal.net) for details.

**The next Yoga class series** started on January 5th and will end on February 23rd. Classes will be held every Thursday evening with a cost of \$150 for all eight classes. Please contact Jean Yves at [jeanyvesyoga@gmail.com](mailto:jeanyvesyoga@gmail.com) for further information.

**The next Dance class series** starts on January 24th and will end on March 6th. Classes will be held every Tuesday evening and the cost is \$118 per couple for six classes. Please contact Daniel Singer at [swingdansin@yahoo.com](mailto:swingdansin@yahoo.com) for further information.

## Tennis Activities News



**Chris Cooke**

**Despite the best efforts of Riaz to re-schedule** the Peninsula Cup for this week (early January), the other team at the Peninsula Golf and Country Club has apparently changed its mind about competing against us (or chickened out). It looks like we are the winners by default and will keep the cup for another year. As this is my last newsletter update as the chair of the Tennis Events Committee, I thought I would thank everyone for their help this past year in putting on these events and to encourage everyone who is interested to consider joining the Tennis Events Committee for 2012 to help the new Chair and **Riaz** with this upcoming year's activities. Remember, it is your club and it works because of you, so keep up the good work.

## House & Grounds News



**Ron Martinucci**

Happy New Year.  
**It is hard to believe that my short two year** stint as the head of H & G is coming to an end. I want to thank **Stuart Batchelor** for his ongoing dedication to the club. He has continued to handle all the behind the scenes tasks that keep us moving in the right direction. A big thank you goes to **Phil Zlatunich** for donating his time and expertise to PTC on several projects. I would also want to thank **Rob Adams** for doing such a great job as President, as well as to the Board who supported my projects this year. I appreciate all the members who stopped me and gave me their opinion over the past two years on how we could better serve the club. **Lona**, a big thank you goes to you for taking care of all the day to day tasks that made me look good during my term. **Jose**, keep up the good work! It's been a lot of fun and was a good experience for me. It was my pleasure to serve on our Board. Have a Happy New Year!

## Membership News



**Dave Marcus**

**Historically, the December Holiday Season** has been a slow period for new membership activity at PTC. This past December was no different. However, we look back at 2011 with a sense of satisfaction as our great club continued to attract a healthy crop of new members, even as many of our neighboring tennis clubs have struggled. Heading in to 2012, we remain confident that our roster will continue to be full, or at least nearly full.

**PTC Board Members typically rotate their committee** assignments from year to year. I will most likely be transitioning off of the Membership Committee to take a new assignment for 2012. Once again, I would like to

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thank all of the committee members who served this year, especially during the multiple Meet & Greet events. Special thanks go to **Jeff Tsu, Rob Delantoni, Marci Martinucci**, and many others who did a fine job showing applicants why we all enjoy PTC so much.

## Social Events News



*Karen Harrigan*

**Wow! 2011 was quite a "social" year** with many events at the PTC to bring our membership together. We kicked off the year with the annual Chili Cook Off/Super Bowl party and we love to see the crowd get bigger and bigger each year! We "mixed"

things up with the Season Opener following Team Tennis. The margaritas flowed along with the stories of killer shots made during the team tennis tournament. We slid into June with less than great weather forcing a re-schedule of the van Dillen Men's Doubles Championship, but the party went on as planned and the house rocked "Rat Pack" style with a cocktail/buffet evening of dancing and Rat Pack debauchery! What fun. The PTC hosted the three Twilight Tennis evenings; Hawaiian style, Fiesta style and finally, Italian style. The turn outs were great, even despite the poor weather. Who knew we were going to get our rain in the summer and not the winter? Our Calcutta dinner in August was our biggest ever, along with the most betting dollars ever! Fun was had by all and there were lots of happy "team owners." The year ended with the ever popular Holiday Party Potluck featuring the piano bar. Again, record numbers of members gathered together to raise toasts to the year with high hopes of great things (including shots on the courts) for the New Year.

**As you can imagine, it takes a tremendous effort** to make these events happen and kudos goes out to those who stepped up to the plate to help. Thank you does not say enough to you all. We look forward to another great social year at the PTC in 2012 and hope that you will

consider joining the committee to make all things social at the PTC great successes! There are not enough thank you's to say to **Lona** and **Jose** for their continued support and hard work to make the social events at our club come off seamlessly. Both of them go beyond what is expected and always with a "can do" attitude and help to make every event a success for our membership.

**The last "official" event for this Social team** will be the Super Bowl Party and 10th annual Chili Cook Off on Sunday, February 5th. The Chili Kick Off will begin at 2:30 pm with the Super Bowl kicking off at approximately 3:17 pm. Bring your special chili dish to share (outlets will be available for crock pots) before the game. If you are not a chili connoisseur, bring a side dish (serving 8-10) to share and enjoy the potluck party before watching the Super bowl on the big screen TV. Beverages will be provided by the club. Please sign up in the clubroom or call **Lona** to let us know how many people to expect and what you plan to bring to share. To add a little excitement to the game, Taddy's Sports Book will be providing the Super Bowl pool and proposition bets. We'll see you there.

## Director of Tennis News



*Riaz Shivji USPTA*

### Year end review:

We had the Peninsula Cup rain out in March and another shady rain day in early June that nixed our regularly scheduled van Dillen Championships. But, we regained our momentum and began a string of successful tennis events and mixers. The van Dillen Championships made it back onto the calendar and another exciting and competitive tournament ended with great matches in all divisions. Team Tennis was a hit again with almost 100 members taking part in our two TT events of the year. The Cal State Senior Championships continued its revival and our club put on another stellar show with over 100 Bay Area players represented. What a great tra-

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dition that we have and will carry forward. In between, we had Wimbledon Woods N' Whites, Twilight Tennis, Men's and Women's Calcutta and our 8th Annual USTA Junior Tournament.

These events could not have been made possible without the help and support of a group of dedicated member volunteers. My sincere thanks and gratitude goes to the many folks who put the club first and gave their time and effort in all areas of event management. Much thanks to **Lona Means, Jose, Marci Martinucci, Nancy Batchelor, Steve Brooks, Betty Cookson, Brad Craig, Rob Kotmel, Mickey Podolsky, Jeff Tateosian, Maggie Blumberg, Craig Andrews, Teddy Bernardo, Mitch Wakasa, Marv Charney, Joni Amaroli, Jennifer Desler, Jane Percy, Karen Harrigan, Marilee Brooks, Molly Dillon, Devi Ananda, Ellie Byrd, Mark Percy, Jeff Tsu, Ron Martinucci, Chris Cook, Rob Adams, Katie Adams, Brian Beswick, Matt Maloney, Julie & Mike Buckmaster, Marissa Hauselt and Debbie Oldham** (just to name a few).

We have many PTC Members who played USTA Tournaments throughout 2011 and ended with the following impressive rankings!

### 2011 Year End Rankings:

M45 Singles - **Doug Stone** #10  
M45 Singles - **Brian Heimbecker** #11  
M45 Doubles - **Dave Barrows** #8  
M55 Singles - **Rick Soss** #18  
M65 Singles - **Jim Friedman** #11  
M65 Team Doubles - **Jim Friedman** #11  
M70 Single - **Jerry Sydorak** #11  
M85 Singles - **Austin Sellery** #5  
M85 Team Doubles -  
**Austin Sellery / Dyle Anderson** #3  
W45 Team Doubles -  
**Linda Benvenuto / Linda P. Nagare** #8  
W55 Team Doubles -  
**Anne Giannini / Cynthia Shannon** #5  
M4.0 Doubles -  
**Kelly Kemp / Phil Zlatunich** # 9

The 2012 SAP Open will be held the week of February 13-19th at the HP Pavilion. RS Academy has arranged for the ladies we that coach from our two Morning League Teams to join the SAP Open Ladies Day Luncheon on February 14th, where they will get to dine at the tournament restaurant, receive gifts from the SAP Open, see some great tennis and also meet the players! Our very own RS Academy Ballkid Team has again been assigned to ballkid for the Finals on Sunday, February 19th! This is a very big honor, and a result of all of the training and hard work that they have put in over the years to make them one of the elite teams in the Bay Area. I will also be arranging two club member outings to the SAP Open on Monday, February 13th (Johnny Mac/Milos Raonic vs. Gael Monfils/James Blake), and Friday, February 17th (Quarter Finals). Seats are in Baseline Box, Section 109. These events sold out last year, so reserve your tickets now by contacting the Tennis Office.

### JUNIOR TENNIS

We also have many tournament-playing Juniors who were very successful in 2011... Way to go guys!

### 2011 Year End Rankings:

B12's - **Clark Safran** #72  
B12's - **Riley Wachhorst** # 75  
B14's - **Peter Campana** #36  
B14's - **Eric Dennis** #45  
B14's - **Nate Safran** #73  
B16's - **Sean Talmadge** #18  
B16's - **Matthew Campana** #24  
B16's - **Brendan Barrows** #175  
B16's - **Gordon Barrows** #199  
B18's - **Sean Talmadge** #87  
B18's - **Matthew Campana** #173  
  
G10's - **Maddie Wachhorst** #31  
G12's - **Anna Campana** #27  
G12's - **Aida Lowe** #113  
G12's - **Kathryn Wilson** #157  
G14's - **Carolyn Campana** #36  
G16's - **Alex Harrigan** #43  
G16's - **Lizzie Siegel** #101  
G16's - **Brooke Butterworth** #106  
G18's - **Brooke Tsu** #56

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### Academy News

2011 was a fantastic year for our Junior Academy! QuickStart has been on fire all year long and it was great to see how many young children were able to get started with their RallyBall tennis careers right here in our Academy. They are learning to play and truly love the game, while having FUN! The STAR Program brought many of our newer member kids onto the courts and I'm happy to report many of them who began lessons and clinics in the summer have continued and registered for both fall and our upcoming winter Programs. We strive to help them enjoy the sport of a lifetime! Our Academy Program has brought steady improvement for its Juniors and with it a commitment to practice with a purpose and play competitive matches whether it is Middle School, High School, USTA or the RS Academy Challenge Ladder matches.

One of my goals for this past year was to help our Juniors understand the need to give back and help each other. The Juniors, who train in the year round program, continue to stay in the game and help out with the younger kids. Many of them assisted me and were Junior instructors during the QuickStart and 10 and under tennis programs. These kids are Triple Impact Competitors – they work to better themselves, their teammates and make the sport better.

The summer was buzzing with excitement for the nine weeks of our Junior Tennis Program and Jr. Team Tennis! This year our team success was based on sportsmanship, camaraderie and the ability to give your best at all times. I'm very proud of our kids and what they achieved together this past summer! Many thanks to my summer crew for logging tough hours on court to help make this another successful tennis camp. **Marci, Albert Vial, Taylor Chaparro, Matt Hauselt and Palmer Mendelson** all dedicated themselves to providing the best experience for our Juniors.

### DON'T FORGET!

The RS Academy Winter Program will kick off on January 9th and will run for eight weeks! Once

again there will be group training programs for QuickStart, 10 and Under, STAR, Jr. Academy 1, 2, 3 and Academy. There are a few spots open in Jr. Academy 1, Jr. Academy 2, QuickStart, 10U and STAR... please contact **Marci** at the tennis office if you would like to register your child! I am anxious to keep working with our kids, to see their continued progress and to spread the love of the game.

Last but not least, some final thank you's to the people around here that make this place tick tock each and every day. **Jeff Tateosian** for his constant passion and energy, **Lona**, for her kindness and dependability, **Mary** for her thoughtfulness, **Jose** and **Jose** for their hard work and professionalism, and finally, **Marci** in the Tennis Office who always brings her loyalty, support, dependability, resourcefulness, kindness, passion, hard work, and upbeat personality to our work place each and every day. Thanks for ALL that you do!

Our 2011 Board helped make this a stellar year for PTC! Thanks to **Rob Adams** for leading such an organized group and making sure things were held in place while PTC continued its growth and transition into the future.

Talking of the future, I'll look forward to working with the new Board and its excellent additions. Our events calendar is being set and I hope to bring a couple new wrinkles into the mix. Look out for amongst other things, USTA Team Clinics, Challenge Court and the PTC Doubles Ladder.

Looking forward to a year filled with pinpoint first serves, deep approach shots, cut angle volleys and a reliable overhead!

### Upcoming Events:

Registration for RS Academy Winter Program is Open NOW!

January 9th – RS Academy Winter Program begins

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*Peninsula Tennis Club ~ Over 75 Years of Tennis*