



The Drop Shot

Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

By Jeff Tateosian

650.347.1439 jeff@ptctennis.com

February 2008

President's Update



Stuart Batchelor

For the past 12 months, **Bob Sinclair** has presided over the club as President with grace and style. He has been working tirelessly overseeing the ongoing challenges the club faces daily along with the Capital Improvement Project (CIP). It has been my absolute pleasure to work hand-in-hand with Bob on the CIP and I am grateful to him to be taking the reins of a very well organized group for the next 12 months.

2008 is a very special year for the PTC in a number of ways. First and foremost, it is our 75th anniversary of our founding in 1933. We hope to mark this occasion in true style remembering our roots while also looking to the future. The second big event will be the completion of our Capital Improvement Project. The CIP began with 2+ years of planning and should conclude after seven long months of execution in late April. We have many members to thank who have worked on the CIP over the course of the project – as it has truly been a group project. Please see the CIP update for a progress report.

February always marks the changeover at the Club wherein our new Board Members take office and we say thank you to those who have served for the past 2–3 years. **Gordon Nagare** has served on the Board for the past three years, two years as chairperson of the membership committee and one

Upcoming Events

•
Super Bowl Party
Sunday February 3rd
2:30pm
•

year as President, managing both with his typical efficiency. **Bob Currie** has served for the past two years on the board heading social activities along with his wife **Lynn**. A big thank you goes out to both of them for a job well done. Lastly we need to thank **Torry Bryant** for stepping up to fill a vacancy on the board. Torry has brought great leadership and direction to the board. We will continue to rely on Torry to serve on our committees for years to come. Joining **Melissa Smith, Alan Klein, Bob Sinclair** and myself on the Board for the upcoming year will be **Erik van Dillen, Becky Showen** and **Rob Delantoni**. Erik, Becky and Rob are great additions to our Board and will provide strong leadership. Board assignments for the upcoming year are: Alan Klein – Finance/Secretary, Bob Sinclair – Social Activities, Melissa Smith – Membership, Erik van Dillen – Long Term Planning/Tennis Instruction Liaison, Rob Delantoni – House & Grounds, Becky Showen – Tennis Committee. Please don't hesitate to give any of them a call /email if you are interested in volunteering your time.

PTC is an active club providing a place for the young, the new and veterans of the club to meet, interact and enjoy tennis activities. For the next three months our focus will be on the completion of renovations of our club. Then it will be time to celebrate the reasons we have all come to call the PTC our home away from home.

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

Editor's Note

Today is the one-year anniversary of the first edition of the new **Drop Shot**. I would like to take a moment to thank all the members who have contributed both articles and/or news to the newsletter. In particular, **Bob Sinclair, Stuart Batchelor, Bill Jepsen and Riaz Shivji** have written informative & creative monthly articles. In addition, **Nancy Batchelor and Bob Sinclair** have provided additional sets of eyes each month proof reading the Drop Shot. Finally, my right hand man & PTC Webmaster **Dennis Mayer**, spends a great deal of time each month putting the print into its final published form. Thank you all for your yearlong commitment. To the rest of our members, please don't hesitate emailing (jeff@ptctennis.com) with any type of club news whenever it happens.

Manager's Corner



Bill Jepsen

Please remember that PTC only has 9 allocated spaces for members in the BHS parking lot. Please refrain from parking in the clearly marked BHS spaces.

As a reminder, the ball machine control box & remote may be signed out at the snack bar and must be returned to the snack bar staff by the end of their shifts. Please make sure the unit is placed back in its locked storage shed and not left out in the rain.

Please do your part to keep the PTC clean – throw away your trash, bus your tables, tidy-up newspapers and magazines, let our staff know if there is a spill or mess that needs to be attended to.

CIP News

Rain, rain, go away..... so it was for the most part during January. The rains have prevented us from doing much work outdoors, but not all. During the month the most apparent change has been the replacement of the fencing on the back-courts.

Our fencing and tennis court contractor (Vintage Construction) has done an excellent job. While they had a few days of sun to get the first part of the job

done, they finished in the pouring rain. They will soon begin their work on the frontcourts. There will be a short period in February when we will need to close court 4 for a few days to permit them to complete their work along the side of the building. The work on court 4 should only take about two days.

Inside the south wing, we are quickly nearing the completion of the infrastructure upgrades.

Throughout this wing we have replaced 100% of the sewer lines and plumbing and about 85% of the electrical lines. The sewer work is done; the plumbing should be 95% complete by the end of January and the electrical about 85% complete. We have also completed the earthquake retrofitting (sheer walls and tie downs) that our Structural Engineer recommended. Over the next couple of weeks, the building will be insulated, sheet rocked and the new heating system and ducts installed. By the end of February, we should be in a position to start painting.

During the month of February we expect (hope) to begin several projects on and around the pool. Right after the pool was formed in November we received feedback regarding the steepness of the steps. Over the past eight weeks we have had numerous discussions with our pool contractor as to how to best correct this situation. We have decided to incur some additional cost to have the steps repoured. This will involve adding rebar to the current steps, having a gunite crew back on the property to reform the steps. We will be increasing the width of the top step from 12" to 24" and adding an extra step to reduce the raise of each one. This work can begin as soon as we get approval from the county health inspector.

Other work to begin is the tiling of the spa and around the pool. We have selected our concrete contractor who will begin work on installing all the hardscape (seat benches, retaining walls, planter areas and footings for the arbor). Our earthworks contractor will be back to complete the work on the storm drains and fine grading. As mentioned above, our tennis court contractor will begin on the front-courts.

The only speed bump that we are currently experiencing is in getting our permits from PG&E for upgraded gas service into our property. Previously we had two separate gas lines servicing our club. One gas line ran along the east side of our property and supplied the pool heater that was in the shed next to court 3. This gas line has been removed and the meter decommissioned. We consolidated all the

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

pool equipment into our expanded mechanical room and the existing gas line to this part of our property is too small. We need to increase the size of the line and cannot do anything until PG&E completes their engineering of the new line. We fully expect these approvals to be in place shortly and that this small delay will not impact the overall timeliness of our project.

As reported at the January Membership Meeting, the project is presently on schedule and on budget. Now we need some good weather to allow our different contractors to get their work done. Take a look at our webcam www.ptctennis.com/courtcam to check up on the progress. Please do not hesitate to contact Stuart Batchelor (batchouse@gmail.com) or Bob Sinclair (sinclair515@yahoo.com) with any questions, comments or suggestions.

Membership News

Comings & goings...

We have had one family submit their applications during January. They are:

Marilee Brooks

Erik van Dillen/Steve Brooks (Sponsors)

Our membership currently stands at 229 senior members. We have one opening that will be filled shortly.

Club News

Club Anniversaries for February (5+ years)

Congratulations to the following members:

Lewis Weil	40 years
Dennis Argyres	25 years
Werner Yee	25 years

The Winter PTC Poker Tournament was a resounding success. Congratulations to the four members who placed in the money. Fourth place went to **Bill Campana**, third to **Anthony Paz**, second to veteran player **Rudy Giannini** and first place went to new member **Joe Feeney**. If you missed the tournament, no problem – our next tournament will be scheduled during the summer.

USTA rankings are in and Dyle Anderson ended up with a National ranking of #5 with one partner and #6 with another for Men's Doubles – 85's. Congratulations Dyle and don't ever slow down!

From USTA magazine.....Hillsborough Brothers Reach Doubles Finals in National Tourney.

TUCSON – Wind is probably the most dreaded enemy of tennis players, and when gusts surpass 40mph, it can affect play. Today, the Copper Bowl finals went on at the Tucson Hilton El Conquistador Resort in such conditions, and the youngsters rose to the challenge, exhibiting exciting tennis.

Hillsborough brothers **Sean and Spencer Talmadge** reached the finals in the boys 12 and under and 18 and under doubles divisions before falling. Spencer Talmadge also reached the consolation finals in the boys 18's, but had to default because of an injury. Sean lost in the semifinals of the boys 12 and unders.

Now in its 15th year, the Copper Bowl is among the largest Junior tennis tournaments in the world. Nearly 1,000 players competed in 8 divisions.

Social Events News

From **Nancy Batchelor**,

I am honored to have been chosen by Bob Sinclair (Board Member in charge of social activities for 2008) to serve as Chairperson of the social committee. My first action will be to throw out a HUGE thank you to **Bob & Lynn Currie** for their incredible hard work and talent in making the social activities so special over the past 2 years. I hope that they will continue to inspire us with their great ideas!

Social activities are a great way to stay connected to the PTC while the club is under construction and you aren't seeing your fellow members on a regular basis. Do you have any ideas, want to get involved or have some extra time on your hands? Please consider volunteering to serve on the social committee. There is lots of fun work to be done and we would love your help to make each and every one a huge success. Some of the annual events that need to go into planning are the celebration of PTC's 75th Anniversary, our twilight tennis events and more! Drop me an email if you are interested in joining the social activities committee. (nnb@yahoo.com)

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

Don't miss the first big event of 2008 this Sunday, Feb. 3rd. Come watch Super Bowl at the PTC on the big screen and enter our 7th annual Super Bowl Chili Cook-off! Enter a crock of your favorite chili/BBQ in our friendly competition. For non-chili contest participants, bring a dish to share with your fellow football fans. Festivities begin at 2:30 pm (kick off is at 3:20). Drinks and set ups provided. Don't forget to bring a few extra \$ and place a bet in the football pool or chose between 18 proposition bets!

Director of Tennis News

The Australian Open used to be the fourth Grand Slam, a tough place to go at the beginning of the year. Now it is "The Happy Slam" as Roger Federer calls it! All the players are in great shape because they have had some time off to rest and recharge and get stronger and fitter.



Riaz Shivji

I think the players in Melbourne have played some of their best tennis because of this break from the grueling tennis schedule throughout the year. You can see that the depth in both Men's and Women's tennis is looking better and better. Some great matches featuring some lower ranked players taking on the top guns. If you have been watching you know some of the names to look out for the rest of the year: MEN – Jo Willy Tsonga, Janko Tipsaravic, Maran Cilic, Philipp Kohlschreiber. WOMEN – Victoria Azarenka, Agnieszka Radwanska, Marta Domachowska. These players have had great runs at the Aussie Open...let's see if they can sustain it throughout the year.

The top, top guns Justine and Roger did not make it to the Finals...they were beaten by hungrier opponents who produced some amazing shot making. Fed got soundly beaten by Novak and Justin was blitzed by Maria. Roger and Justine will be back this year but expect to see quality players get pushed by all-comers in 2008.

Coming up in February is the SAP Open and the field of players is just fantastic! Roddick, Blake, Fish, Haas, Gonzalez, Isner, Bryan Bros. Also, Pete Sampras is playing in an exo on Monday Feb 18th night. Don't miss this chance to see these guys play right here at the HP Pavilion in San Jose. I've got a

few tickets left but they are going fast. Call me at the Tennis Office or shoot me an email.

Speaking of the SAP Open, our Ballkids Team has been chosen (from 18 teams) to work the Finals on Sunday, February 24th at 3:00 PM. This will be our 6th year working the event and second time running the Finals (2005). The team trains hard during the year and it pays off with selection to the SAP Open and Bank of the West Classic in July. We have also worked some of the Stanford home matches in the past. The kids are very excited this year!

In March, I will be off to the Pacific Life Open to catch the rest of the best players in the world compete. This is THE best spectator tournament outside of the Slams. You get to watch all the Men and Women players not only play their matches, but you can also walk around the grounds at Indian Wells Tennis Garden and watch these greats practice and work out. It's fun and exciting to see the best in the world and you can also check out some of the young up and comers from all parts of the globe.

If you haven't had the chance, take a look at the latest edition of Inside Tennis and check out the player rankings in the back of the magazine. Many of our members, young and old have rankings and I think it's great to see our PTC members playing competitive tennis around the Bay Area. Congratulations to all of you and good luck in 2008. Maybe they could inspire you to play a couple of matches outside of PTC or League play.

Ladies Boot Camp has been running in spurts on Thursday afternoons at 1:30 PM. The ladies and I get out on the court and run, jump, skip, bound, and stretch. We use Med Balls, Jump Ropes, Resistance Bands, and Training Ladders to work on foot speed, agility, balance, core, power, and strength. The gals work hard and we have a great time doing it. I have caught a couple of the card players taking a peek and will give them a hard time about it!! You know who you are! Men's Boot Camp will start in March on Saturdays starting at 7:00 AM.

Junior Tennis News

RS STAR TENNIS IS READY TO GO!

Beginner / Novice Clinics will be held at Laguna Park in Burlingame and run every Wednesday for

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

twelve weeks. The fee is \$300 for session and must be paid in advance to RS Tennis Academy. The starting date is February 13th. Call or email Riaz to sign up.

Green Star (age 7–9 yr) is for beginner and novice Juniors with very little or no tennis experience. Fun games and drills are used to help children with movement, balance, coordination, concentration, motor skill development, court awareness, and ball skills. FUNDamental tennis skills are taught and practiced in a relaxed and safe environment. It's a great way for a child to start learning the game from experienced, enthusiastic, and positive coaches.

Green Star Wednesdays – 3:30–4:30 PM...RS Academy coach Albert Vial

Blue Star (age 9–12) is for novice level Juniors with some tennis experience. These Juniors should have basic ground-stroke and serve skills. Games and drills are used to help Juniors develop rally skills and match play tactics. Basic serve, ground-strokes, modern footwork patterns, sound volley technique, and basic conditioning is taught. Self motivation required for this group.

Blue Star Wednesdays – 4:30–5:30 PM...RS Academy coach Albert Vial

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FEB 14th!



Meet The Batchelors

Stuart, Nancy, Jessica & Chris have been frequenting the PTC since 2001. It's hard to miss them when they pull their little red wagon to a twilight tennis event at the club. Despite their youthful appearance, Stuart & Nancy celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this past fall. They met in college at the University of Vermont, but never dated until after Stuart's graduation. They married in '82 and moved to California in '84. Nancy's plan was to come to California for three years and then move back to Connecticut where she grew up. Stuart grew up in

Western Pennsylvania rooting on the Steelers during their heydays of the 70s. Stuart was working for MCI in New York City when he got the opportunity to transfer to San Francisco. After about six months in sunny California, moving back to the east coast became a distant thought. For the past 12 years, Stuart has been working for Cisco Systems and spends much of his time commuting to Europe where his boss and a good part of his job are based.

After moving to California, the Batchelor's lived in Redwood Shores for eight years before getting smart and moving to Burlingame in '92 where they moved in next door to *Sue & Brian Peletta*. This forged a friendship for life! After two years it was time to move again, mostly because Nancy was retiring from Williams-Sonoma. She moved from the corporate world to the volunteer world in support of the Burlingame schools and community. In what amounts to a very unique arrangement by their real estate agent, the Batchelors swapped homes with the *Mendelsons*. Yes, our very own *Glenn & Kristy* bought Stuart & Nancy's home and they in turn bought theirs. Hiring the same moving company ensured a smooth same-time transition to their respective new homes. After 13 years, they each still remain in their respective new homes and friends at the PTC.

Jessica, their oldest, is a senior at the University of Colorado and will be graduating this May with a degree in communications. Jessica has worked at the PTC snack bar for the past several summers and is well known by most of our members. She is actively looking to put her new degree to good use upon her graduation. If anyone has a great position, don't hesitate to let her know.

Chris is currently living in Sacramento and going to Sierra College in Rocklin where he is playing #1 singles and doubles for his tennis team. Chris has been playing tennis since middle school and has been a part of Riaz's program from its inception. An active participant on Riaz's past teams and ball kid programs, Chris has graduated to instructor and assistant coach of some of Riaz's current teams. Chris is planning to move to a 4-year college next fall and continue playing collegiate tennis.

Stuart & Nancy have been very active at PTC since their joining. Nancy has served as chairperson of the social committee and served on the tennis and Junior committees during her seven years at the club. Nancy has co-captained many morning league and women's 3.0 & 3.5 teams for the past seven seasons. Stuart has captained the 6.0 mixed teams and is hoping to put together a new team this fall since we will once again

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

have home courts available. Last year Stuart was elected to the Board of Directors and along with Bob Sinclair assumed joint responsibility of the Capital Improvement Project. For the past 12 months, Stuart & Bob have managed all aspects of the CIP project frequently putting in 20+ hours per week overseeing the many facets of the project in addition to their individual Board responsibilities. For the next 12 months Stuart will serve as Board President while continuing to oversee the final stages of the project with **Bob Sinclair**. Nancy has been asked again to serve as Social Chairperson for the forthcoming year. Stuart and Nancy are wonder members and we are very lucky to have them.

DID YOU KNOW?

The PTC has 7 courts with a maximum membership of 230 Senior Memberships. Have you ever wondered how that stacks up with other clubs in the Bay Area? The answer is very positive. Take a look at the ratio from the other big clubs in the Bay Area.

PTC
7 Courts
230 Members

Ladera Oaks
6 Courts
525 Members

Berkeley Tennis Club
10 Courts
650 Members

Alpine Hills
12 courts
650 Members

Tiburon Peninsula Club
10 courts
750 Members

Oakland Hills TC
10 courts
1,200 Members

Foothills Tennis Club
7 courts
350 Members

Mt. Tam Racquet Club
13 courts
1,000 Members

California Tennis Club
10 courts
980 Members

PTC – Question of the Month

Every other month or so, the PTC – Question of the Month will be appearing in the Drop Shot. The first question used in this new feature was:

“Beyond the CIP project, what additional expenditure, improvement or repair would you like to see at the club?”

– Lights on the backcourts (**Scott Parsons**)

– I would love to see the snack shack improve with quality food, healthier food and more of a variety. (**Marissa Hauselt**)

– On-line court reservations (**Gary Goodman**)

– Not allow the Burlingame students to park outside the Chatham gate and then walk through the club to school. It takes up valuable parking for both residents and older members who play during the weekdays. (**Anonymous**)

– Modernizing and expanding the gym. A sauna/steam room would also be a bonus. Would like to see the issue of allowing kids in the hot tub discussed in favor of greater access for the younger members. (**Jim Sobel**) ...*The CIP plans for the gym to move into the old Junior room next to the BBQ's.*

– Would like to see the Men's locker room updated, primarily brought up-to-date, nothing fancy. At some point, the exterior fences should be replaced and associated landscaping updated. (**Rob Adams**) ...*The plan is to replace the fence along Chatham/Plymouth and down the east side of our property. Where is a complete landscaping plan that was developed and will be implemented as part of the Capital Improvement Project. A number of new trees will be planted along with shrubs and other plants. The pool and surrounding areas should look very nice once completed.*

– Improvement in Snack Bar food. Specifically, possible daily specials once the CIP is completed, as well as fresher choices. (**Anonymous**)

– Organized drop-in session or two similar to Saturday AM drop-ins. (**Anthony Paz**)



Windscreens were removed so work could commence

The old screens will be donated to the high school

Fence fabric taken down, rolled up, and carted away



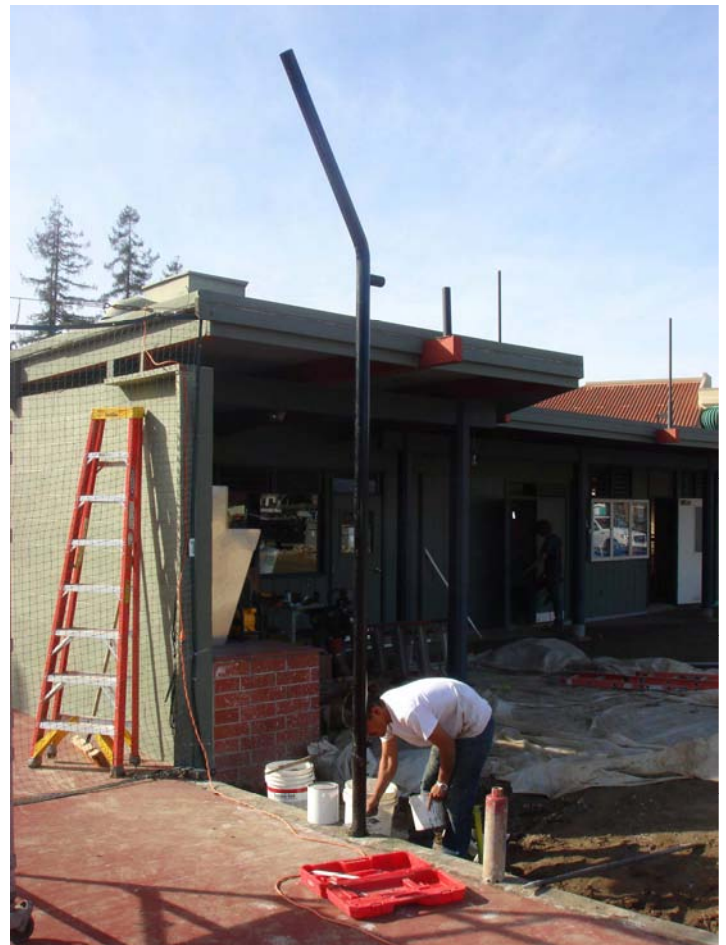
Old pole cut at their foundation and removed



A worker core drills approximately 30 new holes into the existing concrete wall where the new poles will be installed

The first new pole is placed into its hole. A cement compound is poured into the hole to stabilize and secure the pole

Each pole was bent with a 30° bend to replicate our current fencing





45° cut was made by court #7 and a curb added. Workers pump concrete to form the curb and secure the poles.



Workers erect each section of the new fence

The gate which was between courts #5 & 6 is now located between courts #6 & 7



The finished product - we plan on re-coloring the back courts later in the spring

The front courts will look exactly the same way when they are completed

We will need to order new windscreens as the fencing was altered by moving the location of the gate, adding the 45° angle in the corner and lengthening the fence down along court 7

The concrete curb that protruded along the back alleyway was removed and still needs to be touched up

