# The Drop Shot

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

## March 2012

## President's Message



Chris Cooke

Spring is here with a vengeance! Yes, for those of you who did not take advantage of the warm January and February (global warming, or is it the 2012 Mayan doomsday prophecy), it is time to hit the courts. We will have plenty of events coming up including tennis leagues, Men's Singles, social and tennis events. So, it is a good time to brush up on your game by getting in a few practice matches.

For those of you who enjoy posting or reading about tennis, we will be launching our very own PTC Facebook page, for you to peruse the calendar of events, photos of our tennis and social events, and of course, for everyone to share their comments and thoughts. A very big thank you for this happening goes to *Tom* and **Sabine Middlemass**, who put this together as a pilot project as a way for club members to share and enjoy the events we hold each year. If you are not familiar with Facebook, it is like a digital scrapbook that you can write in (can you say "Like"). The best way to figure out how to use Facebook is to ask a teenager, many of whom now spend more time posting on Facebook than watching TV. Or you can ask Rob Adams, who is busying sharing photos of vintage cars on his Facebook page. Anyway, keep posted for emails asking you to "Friend"

## **Upcoming Events**

Men's Singles Tournament - 1st Round March 11th

St. Patrick's Day Mixed Team Tennis & Member Mixer Saturday, March 17th

Men's Singles Tournament - 2nd Round Sunday, April 1st

Quarterly Membership Meeting Tuesday, April 17th

the PTC Tennis Facebook page. If you have PTC related photos or videos you wish to upload, please ask Tom, Lona, me or one of the other Board Members (this means you *Craig Andrews*).

I must say that our new Board has really hit the ground running with many new ideas for the club. Phil Zlatunich, for one, has created a comprehensive inventory of the club's physical facilities that includes the approximate date of purchase, price, and expected life of the various infrastructures for our club to help us better plan and budget for future repairs and improvements. Using this list, Rob Adams will work with Phil to put together a list of recommendations for projects that need immediate attention, and, with Dave Marcus' input, an expected budget. This is a very crucial project for us, as it will clarify our short-term and near-term financial requirements for keeping the club well maintained.

Jane Pearcy has an impressive and very active social committee that is already planning our next event, a St. Patrick's Day party to coincide with the Mixed Team Tennis event that Tom Middlemass and his Tennis Committee are planning. Tom, apart from creating the Facebook page and helping to plan the Mixed Team Tennis, is also working with his committee and *Riaz* to put together the Men's Single's Tournament. **Dave Marcus**, now running the Finance Committee, has worked on a revised budget format and will assist Phil Zlatunich and Rob in their planning process. Finally, *Mike* Amaroli, running the Membership Committee. has already recruited one new member who is going through the 30 day waiting period, and is working on ways to recruit more.

**Speaking of which, I would like** this year to be the year when each of us tries to get at least one new person interested in joining our club. Right now, due to the poor economy and a variety of other factors, including an aging demographics, job relocations, etc., we have a waiting list for members who wish to resign their membership. When I joined 6 years ago, it was the opposite situation: we had a short wait list of persons looking to join our club. I would like to revert to that situation. I think that we can do it over the next two years if everyone spreads the word to tennis players they know through team tennis and tournaments that they might want to consider joining our club. In fact. I think one of the best features of our club is that it is a small, intimate place and that we, the members, own it.

## Editor's Note



Jeff Tateosian

Thank you to everyone for joining us at the 10th Annual Super Bowl party. We had over 80 members enjoy a thrilling game with the New York Giants edging out the New England Patriots. Congratulations to Football Pool winners (*David* 

Marcus, Kristy Mendelson, Sonja Moss, Marsha Kunz, Ben Chew & Grace Andrews) and our Proposition Bet winners (*Bob Sinclair, Tim McMurdo, Mark Strem & Michael Strem*).

Be sure to catch up with Ken & Teresa Post in the "Where Are They Now" article at the end of the Drop Shot. Living abroad in Singapore since leaving the club has been quite an experience for their family.

Congratulations to our four current USTA teams as they have a combined 15-8 record, and all would be in the playoffs if the season ended today. *Keep it going!* 

Good luck to club manager Lona and husband Gary Means, who are on their way to Nationals in San Antonio on March 29th. They are playing for their San Carlos 7.0 Mixed Team. The club wishes you both the very best.

## Manager's Corner



Lona Means

Burlingame Aquatic Club will be hosting a Red Cross Sponsored Lifeguard Certification Course. Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to apply for summer employment at the PTC. Information can be

found on the BAC website at www.burlingameaquatics.com.

When using the ball machine, please remember to return the ball machine to the shed, put the controller in the fitness room, and store the tennis balls out of the rain. Lastly, please do not run over power cords while using the ball mower to pick up balls.

This is a great time of the year to join PTC, just in time for the summer! Please stop by my office for an application packet for your friends.

**Please contact me** if you have any suggestions or questions at manager@ptctennis.com or 650 347-1439.

Happy Tennis!

## Club News

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

Bill & Nancy Campana35 YearsHank & Jeannette Stumpf25 YearsRon & Leah Leavy20 Years

New Ballroom Dancing sessions began on March 6. We now have three levels in the ever expanding program. The new Tuesday evening sessions will run for six weeks. The cost remains the same at \$59.00/member. Dancing "field trips" will be offered monthly and are optional. Class times are:

Beginners 6:00-7:00 pm
Intermediate 7:00-8:00 pm
Advanced 8:00-9:00 pm

#### In Memoriam

We are sad to report the passing of a couple of long-time friends of the PTC. Emeritus Member *Lewis Weil* had been a member of the club for 45 years. He was 82 and is survived by his children, *David, Linda and Robert.* 

Jim Delehanti joined the club back in 1964 and was quite a popular member until he resigned in 2006. He recently turned 90 and is survived by his wife Norma, and many kids and grand-kids. We will miss them both.

## **Tennis Activities News**



Tom Middlemass

The Tennis Committee has a couple of high profile events coming this month. We start off with the annual PTC Men's Singles Tournament. The first round will be played on Sunday, March 11th at noon, with the second round to fol-

low on April 1st. There is still time to register if you plan on competing. For everyone else, you are encouraged to come down to the club and watch some excellent matches.

Next up is the St. Paddy's Day Mixed Team Tennis event on March 17th. We are already at peak capacity so registration is now closed. For those playing, we will be announcing the teams a week prior so be on the lookout for an email with your assignments. Once again, all others are encouraged to participate as spectators (dressed in green of course).

As you read in the President's Message, we are in the process of building out a PTC Facebook page. In addition to the wonderful interactive nature of Facebook, the Tennis Committee is looking to promote tennis events and use the tool as a supplemental way to signup for activities. So stay tuned as there is more to come on this. Happy Hitting!

## House & Grounds News



Phil Zlatunich

The PA system went on the blink last weekend, so there was no audio warning to go with the raising of the Red Flag on Saturday morning. That was a very fortuitous event for those of us playing at the time as no one can see actually that far! (Makes you wonder how we can make

accurate line calls from the opposite base line)? Fortunately, *Stuart Batchelor* was around to display his electronic prowess. He quickly found and installed a refurbished amplifier as well as purchased a slick new speaker which I installed on the roof late Sunday. The P.A. system is back! During my court inspections this week, I noticed that there is dried chewing gum on the tennis courts and pool area in several places. Please help maintain our facility and dispose of your chewing gum properly. Once gum has dried on the pool deck or tennis courts, it is difficult to remove and leaves a stain.

Just a couple reminders, as the days get longer and play goes later, please keep the club locked up. Don't prop open the doors and be sure to turn out the lights when you leave. Also, since PTC does not "own" any parking

spaces, members should refrain from parking in spots that are reserved for BHS faculty, staff, students or visitors. Please park only in the designated PTC spots marked with the faded yellow striping or on Chatham if you choose.

## Membership News



Hello fellow members. We currently have one new family going through the application process. Their names are *Grace* and *Steve Voorhis*. Their Sponsor is *Kirsten Gray* and their Seconder is *Mei Chen*.

Mike Amaroli

**This is good news,** but the PTC nings available, so get out there

has more openings available, so get out there and tell your friends about the Best Little Club in Town. As an added bonus, they may even get to hit with me at the next Meet & Greet. Well, that may not be much of a bonus, but a \$250 credit towards your dues for referring a friend who joins certainly is! Our wonderful *Lona* can guide them through the process. Happy Tennis.

## Social Events News



Jane Pearcy

A great time was had by all at our 10th Annual Chili Cook-Off & Super Bowl party at the club. The sports betting was not the only member contest going on. We had eleven chili creations entered. It was one of the most competitive and delicious cook-

off's ever. The close voting yielded a new first-time winner in *Marsha Kunz*. Second place went to *Marci Martinucci*, while *Maggie Blumberg* took third. Finally, a big thank you to *Nancy Batchelor, Marissa Hauselt* and the rest of the Social Committee who helped make this another successful PTC event.

Coming up next is our St. Paddy's Day Mixed Doubles Team Tennis and party immediately

following on Saturday, March 17th. Breakfast, lunch and post-tennis drinks and snacks will be provided. We will also have prizes for various categories that will be announced at the party. Let's hope the luck of the Irish will be with all of the players and take heed of this famous Irish limerick:

The crowd gave a mighty cheer, As the ball struck the line; victory near. But a finger went up on the opposite side, The ball was called, "Out! Just a little bit wide." A loss. Someone get me a beer.

## **Director of Tennis News**



Riaz Shivji USPTA

#### **ADULT TENNIS**

#### Men's Singles

Corner to corner, deep then short, drop shot then lob, tight calls...and that's just the warm up! It's time for

the Gents to step up and show their singles stuff. One on one combat is where it's at! To mentally pit your skills against your opponent and take satisfaction in the glory of winning, or at least making the guy work for it! First Round is March 11th. Sign-up sheet is in clubhouse. Call me for strategy lessons.

#### SAP Open

The 2012 SAP Open Tournament presented some great events for the club. The Ladies Luncheon was attended by 24 women from our Day and Senior League teams. It was fantastic to see so many of you come together to participate in this fun event! I am glad that you all enjoyed the camaraderie of going as a group, the luncheon and of course the opportunity to meet and pose with the players which included Jack Sock, Grigor Dimitrov (my current fav) and Gael Monfils!

In addition, we also had two very successful Friday night events, Parent/Child motivation evening and the ever popular Cupid Couple's night! Many of our Academy Juniors and their parents enjoyed watching the matches together.

It was a great experience for all and such an important part of the kids learning to love and respect the game. Cupid Couple's night started out with good friends and good food at the Old Wagon Saloon in downtown San Jose. From there, the group continued on to the SAP, with an evening of great Quarter-Final tennis. This long-standing tradition is always one that I look forward to – good people, good tennis, good times!

#### **USTA League Tennis**

We have eight teams getting ready to begin the USTA season in March. We still need a few more players to round out the rosters. If you are interested in signing up for a team, here are a list of teams and the captains to contact, if you are in need of more information. All registration is online at the USTA Norcal website at www.ustanorcal.com

- Women's 3.0 *Kristin Nisewaner knisewaner@yahoo.com*
- Men's 3.0 Mickey Podolsky mbpodo@aol.com
- Women's 3.5 *Kim Cresci kim@crescimail.com*
- Men's 3.5 Jeff Schubiner drjschubiner@comcast.net
- Women's 4.0 **Barbara Freethy** bafreethy@astound.net
- Men's 4.0 **Brian Wachhorst** brian@sfbooking.com
- Men's 4.5 *Ken March kvmarch81@att.net*
- Men's 5.0 *Riaz Shivji* rstennisacademy@gmail.com
- SW60 7.0 **Nancy Chew** fun4npc@yahoo.com

The PTC 3.0 Women's team captained by *Kristen Nisewaner* has been busy practicing to get ready for the upcoming USTA season! Team members participate in clinics run by *Albert* and myself every other week and have been taking the Academy MatchPlay Doubles course which will last for eight sessions. During the first session, we worked on team movement, court position and communication guidelines. Last week in session two the team made

improvements in their close range volleying and attacking options at net. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Kristen at knisewaner@yahoo.com

#### JUNIOR TENNIS

First, I would like to congratulate **our spectac- u**lar Ballkid's team who were given the prestigious honor of ballkidding the finals at the SAP
Open! Our team trained very hard for this day,
and it definitely showed in their quality performance! In addition, the Ballkids also worked
the qualifying rounds the weekend prior to the
tournament that were held at Courtside Club in
Los Gatos. Way to go team, I am very proud of
all of you!

The RS Tennis Academy Winter Program is coming to a close, the following are the final days scheduled for each group:
Monday, Jr. Academy 2 - March 5th
Tuesday, Jr. Academy 3 - March 6th
Wednesday, QuickStart/U10 - February 29th
Thursday, STAR - March 15th
Friday, Jr. Academy 1- March 9th

The RS Tennis Academy Spring Program will begin the week of March 19th. Please visit our website at <a href="https://www.rstennis.com">www.rstennis.com</a> for all schedules, fees and details.

Registration will be available online!

### **Summer Tennis Camp**

Its time to plan for summer tennis! RS Academy summer camp dates are set and like last year we will be offering nine weeks of camps starting with Opening Day on June 11th and running consecutively until August 10th. We offer every level from Quick Start, 10 and Under, STAR and Junior Academy programs to coaching and the development of Varsity and competitive tournament players. We welcome all campers ages 5–18, to take advantage of our positive and engaging program. We are taking sign-ups now. Please visit <a href="https://www.rstennis.com">www.rstennis.com</a> to register your child for a great summer of tennis.

Summer Memberships are available to nonmember Juniors that would like to join our club

for the summer months only. Children must be at least 10 years old and take our summer camp clinics to be eligible. Our club offers 30 summer memberships each year. If you have friends with children that may be interested, please contact me at the Tennis Office.

The Peninsula TC/RS Tennis Academy Jr.

Novice/Challenger Tournament will be held the weekend of May 19–20, 2012. The tournament will be for boys and girls ages 12–14, at the Novice and Challenger levels. This is a fantastic tournament for Juniors and is always a great experience to play a tournament on their home courts at PTC. Draws are limited, please register your Juniors. You can find more information at <a href="https://www.ustanorcal.com">www.ustanorcal.com</a>.

#### **Junior Leadership Program**

Juniors dating back to 2000/1 benefitted from being mentored on and off the courts by some of my older students. Young bucks such as Forrest & Brooke Tsu, Palmer Mendelson, Mathew Hauselt, Erik Chaney and Alex Harrigan were given sage advice by the likes of Chris Harris, Allison Mayer, Charlie Patterson, Sally Last, Max Willis, Chris Batchelor and Steven Benvenuto. It was a pleasure to have these kids in the program and giving back in order to grow the game. To continue this hallowed tradition I have developed the Academy Leadership Program in order for current Juniors to follow in the footsteps of past Junior mentors.

I am proud to announce the recipients of the 2012 Academy Leadership Program, currently these exceptional Juniors have been consistently giving their time, effort, care, support and dedication back to the younger children during the latest Winter QuickStart and U10 Tennis series: Halle Martinucci (Butts), Susana Pearcy (Lollipop), Nick Yee (YoYo), Matt Miller (Miller), Zach Martinucci (Nooch), Haley Shaffer (TBD), Ethan Smith (Easy E), Jim Friedman (Jim). I can't tell you how much it means to have these outstanding Juniors as part of our program. Congratulations and thank you!

Finally, I'm looking forward to spending a few days down in the desert at the BNP Paribas Open in mid March. If you haven't been, I highly recommend it if you are a tennis fan. It will not disappoint! Top players, sun, play tennis, relax, fun!

#### **Upcoming Tennis Events:**

March 17th - St. Paddy's Day Mixed Team Tennis!

March 19th – 8 Week Spring Tennis Program begins!

Cheers! Riaz

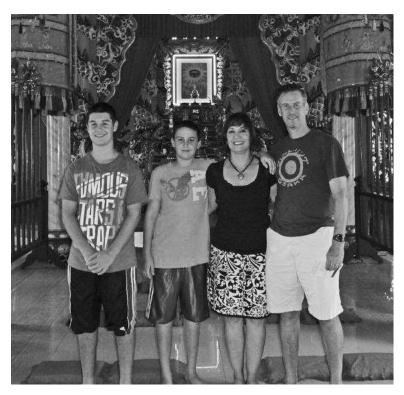


What happens is Palm Springs stays in Palm Springs

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Ken and Teresa Post were very well-liked members who joined the club in 1999. A couple of years ago, they put their membership on hold, along with the rest of their everyday life in order for Ken to accept a job transfer to Singapore. Since then, Ken and Teresa have enjoyed every bit of life overseas. The one exception might be the weather. Ken described living on the equator as having three temperatures; hot, very hot and holy &%#\* it's hot. The good news about the heat is that they do get to enjoy the tropical outdoors and "al fresco" dining year round.

Ken is still working for Kuehne+Nagel (14 years), an international shipping & freight forwarding firm. It's very challenging with late night conference calls, travel, etc but very rewarding at the same time. One of the rewards comes in the form of visiting parts of the world that most of us will never experience. They include multiple cities in China, Indonesia, Thailand, Australia, and Vietnam with a few others planned before they return to the states within the next couple of years.



Teresa is what the locals call a "Tai Tai" or "traveling spouse." However, for those of you who know Teresa, that doesn't describe her at all. She volunteers at the school, works at a non-profit charity called Caring for Cambodia, and volunteers at the American Women's Association as a docent for expat women who have recently arrived in the country and want to get to know the island culturally. She keeps very busy!

Their two boys are *Spencer* 16, a sophomore and *Jackson* 13, a 7th grader. They attend the Singapore American School, which is world renown with amazing faculty and tons of support. Both boys are active in

sports and even play American football. Asked how they adjusted to life overseas, Kens says they definitely got through some rough patches and they are doing well at school. They have a core group of friends but miss home and all their childhood friends quite a bit.

Singapore is also known for food, so they often go for local favorites like "chicken rice" and "Laksa" (a noodle dish with rich coconut gravy). The Indian food is really good, yet authentically spicy. Ken usually needs a few jugs of Tiger beer to wash down the heat! Though the food is amazing, they love the American Club restaurant and often long for one of *Mary's* PTC Cheeseburgers.

Speaking of the PTC, Ken plays as much tennis as he can at the British Club, one to two times a week. He vows to return with his 4.0 rating intact. Asked for a final comment, Ken & Teresa replied, "we miss everyone back 'home' in Burlingame and at the PTC. Our very best to all of you."

Mar 2012 (Pacific Time) Sat	1 pm - Men's 3.5	1 pm - Women's 4.0	8am - Saint Paddy's 3:30pm - Men's 4.0	1 pm - Men's 3.5 3 pm - Women's 4.0	8
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