

May 2008

President's Update



Stuart Batchelor

Celebrating 20 Years of Service

For the past 20 years, *Mary McNeil* has been working in the snack bar making tuna fish sandwiches, serving up the soup of the day and training countless new employees that work in the summer and on weekends. It is very rare these days to find dedicated and long serving employees such as Mary. On behalf of the Club and it's membership I want to extend our sincere congratulations and appreciation to Mary for all her hard work and efforts.

Summer is quickly approaching and with that the completion of our Capital Improvement Project. In the next couple of weeks we will be reopening our front courts and then the locker rooms. The last item will be the pool, which will be open by the time the schools let out. While we believe most of the club will be functional by the 17th, please bear with us as we complete all the final items. It may take us yet a couple of weeks to get all the finishing touches on the club (e.g. paint, etc.).

The Club is planning a reopening ceremony on Saturday, May 17th. Hot dogs, hamburgers and all the fixings are being planned. We hope that you can join us to celebrate the [near] completion of the project.

Upcoming Events

•
Opening Day Ceremony
May 17th
5:30 Ceremony 6:00 Family BBQ

•
van Dillen Men's & Women's
Doubles Championships
June 7 & 8

•
Twilight Tennis/Dinner
June 26
•

Editor's Note

As we prepare for our Opening Weekend Celebration, it's time to give out some well deserved thanks. It might be easy for members to take for granted the work behind the construction at the club. Though many people have had input and participation in the CIP, I would like to give special thanks to *Stuart Batchelor* and *Bob Sinclair*.

As last year's President, Bob led the club through the financing and groundbreaking stages of the project. The idea of the project started six years earlier with *Jim Fregosi* & the late *Roy Evars* and went through many hands since. Bob was also fortunate because Stuart had just been voted onto the Board in January of last year. Once it had been decided that Stuart would take over House & Grounds, the project took off.

When Stuart became President this year, the leadership continued with both of them working together

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to oversee the project. Being Stuart's neighbor, I can attest to the fact that I saw him going to the club everyday during construction (plus the hundreds of hours working from home) making sure that everything went the way it was supposed to. The "Bulldog" as I refer to him when given a task, along with Bob, managed the project to perfection. They made many crucial decisions to help get us the best product at the best possible price. My sincere thanks for making the PTC dream come true.

I hope everyone can attend our Celebration on the 17th. It has been a long "off season" and I look forward to seeing everyone at the club and participating in our many planned activities for the upcoming summer.

Manager's Corner



Bill Jepsen

New Keys – As part of the club's renovation, new locks have been installed on all of our doors. This necessitates the issuance of new keys. Please drop by my office to get yours. As of today, you need the new key to access the club and the locker rooms.

Smoothies – Attention kids and anyone who likes our smoothies. We will have smoothies back on the menu as of May 1st!

Lifeguards – Our summer lifeguard hours will be 12:00 – 5:30 starting on June 14th through the end of summer.

Club Rules – A reminder of some club rules as they apply to those under the age of 18. A complete list of all rules can be found in the Club roster.

Under 10 – not permitted at the Club unless under adult supervision.

Under 14 – not permitted in the pool unless the lifeguard is on duty or with direct adult supervision.

Under 18 – not permitted to use the spa during Club hours or when being used by adults.

Office Hours – From Memorial Day through Labor Day the office will be open and I will be onsite from 8:00 – 5:00 Tuesday–Saturday.

CIP News

Get Ready, Get Set,

There is definitely light at the end of the tunnel and the Club is just about to get back to business as usual. During April we have seen the transformation of our front courts from being a parking lot for our contractors to that of a first class tennis facility. The new fencing is up, the new asphalt has been laid and work is quickly progressing to make them playable by early May. If all goes well, we hope to have the front courts back open for play by Friday, May 9th.

While there has been little physical evidence that work as been going on with the pool, work has been continuing within the mechanical room. The pool and spa heaters have been installed. New filtration systems and pumps have been set in place. This week we will have the bulk chlorine and CO2 containers delivered. On Saturday May 10th we are planning to plaster and fill the pool. The pool will not be available for swimmers for at least two weeks as we cannot begin adding chemicals (e.g. chlorine) after that. The heater will also not be turned on until approximately June 6th (assumes we will have our new gas service). The delay in adding chemicals and heating the pool are a requirement to allow the new plaster to properly dry out. Filling the pool helps slow down the curing process and prevents the new plaster from cracking. Once the heaters are turned on the pool should be ready for use within a couple of days.

Providing our members with a hot shower is still eluding us. PG&E still has not given us a date for when we can expect to get our new gas service. We are looking into a plan "B" that may permit us to get only the new water heaters operational if PG&E is not forthcoming in the next two weeks.

Work will be commencing in the clubroom to make some necessary changes to our bar. We need to adapt the bar to be ADA compliant. We are also relocating the ice maker from its current location to a new spot behind the bar.

Work in the locker rooms is almost complete. The new lockers in the ladies' locker room have been installed along with the tile work and all the new counter tops throughout the wing. The drop ceiling was installed in the ladies locker room and we replaced the skylights in the girls' locker room. Carpet is on order and hopefully will be installed in the next two weeks. Ramon has daily painting projects around the club. Painting will be an ongoing

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project for the next three months as we work to get all the different areas of the club spruced up.

For the next two weeks we are asking members to refrain from walking within the construction area as we need to caulk all the concrete joints and will also be applying sealer to the concrete. We appreciate your cooperation!

Tennis News

Tennis is back at the PTC and the Tennis Committee has many tennis activities planned for you! Starting off in the order that play begins, first up is the **Men's Singles Tournament**. Play (3.5 & lower and 4.0 & higher) begins May 24th, with the finals being held June 29th. As in past years, all players will receive a phone call detailing their first round match. After that, players are to arrange their own matches with their opponents. Matches must be completed by June 26th. Come watch the finals on Sunday June 29th. Tournament fee is \$15. Additional details are posted on the sign up sheet located in the Club Room.

Next up is the always popular van Dillen Men's Doubles Championship. The tournament begins June 7th (unless signups exceed our wildest expectations, in which case a few first round matches may be played Friday June 6th after 5:30 pm) with finals occurring on June 8th. The brackets are 3.5 & lower and 4.0 & higher. Sign up with a partner or sign up as an individual and we will pair you up with someone. The bottom line is just say "YES" and sign up to play. Tournament fee is \$30; additional details are posted on the sign up sheet located in the Club Room.

Last but certainly not least, the PTC Women's Doubles Championship has added the prestigious van Dillen name to their tournament and will also take place that first weekend in June. The women will play on Sunday June 8th, including the finals which will take place in the afternoon that day. The brackets are 3.5 & lower and 4.0 and higher. As with the men, sign up with a partner or sign up as an individual and we will pair you up with someone. All women are welcome, invited and encouraged to play in this always-FUN event, which includes raffle prizes, tee shirts, great food and camaraderie. The Tournament fee is \$25 and additional details are included on the sign up sheet posted in the Club Room.

If your tennis plate isn't full enough with these three events, you can look forward to the Calcutta Tournament, which takes place in July. Start saving your nickels and dimes for some raucous betting on the tournament teams Friday July 11th at the Calcutta Dinner. The men will play on Saturday July 12th followed by the women on Sunday July 13th. More details to follow at a later date. In the meantime, the Tennis Committee looks forward to a great turnout for the Men's Singles, and the van Dillen Men's and Women's Doubles Championship.

Membership News

Comings & goings...

We have had one new family submit their application during April. They are:

Ken & Martha Markey Rob Adams/Anthony Paz
(Sponsors)

Club News

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

Linda Pene	10 Years
Mario Alioto	10 Years

Congratulations to Betty Cookson who played in the Women's National Clay Court Championships for the 85's in March at the Houston Racquet Club. The 35, 45, 55, 65, & 75's Championships were also held, making it the biggest national tournament for Senior Women. Her partner was Dodo Cheney of La Jolla, who is 92 years old and has won over 350 national championships. They won 6-4, 7-5 including the last seven games in a row to win the championship and another Gold Ball. She next plays in the National Indoor Championships in Kansas City at the end of May. As Betty puts it, "Tennis really is a game you can play for a lifetime." Good luck at the Indoors Betty!

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Social Events News

Your social committee is at work on plans for some great activities at the PTC. Come on down to the "new and improved" PTC for the ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, May 17 at 5:30pm. We will celebrate our fabulous new facility with a family BBQ after the ceremony. Food and beverages will be provided. There is no charge for this event, however we appreciate your RSVP by signing up in the clubhouse or call Bill Jepson (347-1439).

In addition, mark your calendars for Saturday, June 7 for the cocktail reception celebrating the van Dillen Doubles Championship Weekend. All members are invited to raise a toast to doubles championship play on Saturday evening. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvre will begin at 5:30pm. Sign up in the clubhouse or call Bill Jepson with your RSVP. There is a \$15 fee for the dinner.

Mark your calendars with these upcoming events.

Details in your next Drop Shot:

Saturday, May 17 - Opening Day Ceremony & BBQ - 5:30 pm

Saturday, June 7 - van Dillen Doubles Championship Cocktail Party - 5:30

Thursday, June 26 - Twilight Tennis #1

Thursday, July 24 - Twilight Tennis #2

Thursday, August 21 - Twilight Tennis #3

Director of Tennis News



Riaz Shivji

Riaz Shivji USPTA
Director of Tennis
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ADULT TENNIS

The USTA Adult League season is underway and our teams have started well considering they only have four practice courts here at the club and they have had to play all early season matches away from home. Here are our teams and records so far:

M 3.0	2-1
M 3.5	0-1
M 4.0	2-1
W 3.5	1-4

Hopefully our teams will get a boost when we start playing home matches on our lovely new courts come the end of May and beginning of June.

If you would like new tennis shoes call me at the Tennis Office 650-347-1440. I will be placing an order with K-Swiss by May 9th. They have four styles to choose from, Ultrascendor, Glaciator, Ascendor, and Defier. I'm wearing the Ascendor currently and it is a good snug fit and great court shoe.

Junior Tennis News

In mid April, I took 13 year old **Brooke Tsu** to the very prestigious Easter Bowl Junior tournament in Palm Springs. The tournament was played at multiple sites but the main site was at Rancho Las Palmas Resort in Rancho Mirage. 128 draws in the boys and girls 14's and 16's, and the 18's event was an ITF (International Tennis Federation) event with draws of 64. Many of the US Bonnie Bell girls that played right here at PTC in 2006 were there and did very well as you can imagine. Brooke played well for playing in her very first National Level 1 Tournament and got some great match experience at the very highest level. She won one match in the Main Draw and gained some valuable National points at the same time. After discussing her experience there we agreed to set higher practice and preparation goals along with being open to trying different playing styles. I hope to add more to her all-court game by July when she will play the summer NorCal circuit.

May will be the last month of the Star Program before we hit summer tennis. The last Green / Blue Star series will start on May 7th and run every Wednesday till May 28th. This is a great way for your child to get a head start going into summer tennis. Fee is \$ 110 per Junior.

Call the Tennis Office to sign up your child.

3:30-4:30pm Green Star (6-8 yrs)

4:30-5:30pm Blue Star (8-10 yrs)

RS ACADEMY SUMMER TENNIS

JUNE 16th-AUGUST 15th

WEEKLY SESSIONS

POSITIVE COACHING

GAMES BASED PROGRAM

REGISTRATION IS OPEN - WWW.RSTENNIS.COM

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Tennis Academy Mission

To nurture a true love and respect for the game. Develop positive tennis and life skills. Build Champions on and of the court. Sportsmanship, Teamwork, Positive Attitude, Respect, and Honoring Fair Competition are addressed and coached at all times.

UPCOMING JUNIOR EVENTS

June 16th Summer Camp Opening Day (9am-12pm)

June 27-29 PTC Junior Invitational Tournament

July 1-30 USTA Junior Team Tennis

July 14-20 Bank of the West Classic

Aug 1-3 USTA NorCal Junior Tournament

Aug 15th Summer Camp Closing Day

PRO TENNIS

The clay court swing of the tennis tour has started and it will be fascinating to see if Roger Federer can will himself out of his "slump" and give himself another shot at the one Grand Slam he has not conquered, Roland Garros. He has joined forces with an extremely knowledgeable coach, Jose Higuera, and we shall see if this can help him on the dirt in Europe. No matter what happens I applaud Federer for allowing another set of eyes to watch him and coax the best out of him. Club players can sometimes get wrapped up in what they do well and fail to see that trying something different may make them a better player. Or working on a weak part of their game can help them improve in the long run. Even a slight adjustment here and there can make all the difference in a player's game. My view is that you should be open to input from a qualified coach, to learn from someone who has spent time on their coaching craft, an individual that can offer candid and creative advice, someone who knows what to look for and can give you a plan to improve. If you can trust that person and understand that he/she can help you, if you are willing and open to it, great things can happen.

TIP OF THE MONTH

When playing doubles if you are the server's partner you should be expecting the serve to get the receiver in trouble. If that happens then it's a good time to squeeze towards the center of the court and see if their return is something you can keep moving forward to poach. As the server, a good serve to hit to help your net partner make a **squeeze play** is a spin serve right at the body, towards the player's hips as they would have to decide which side to strike the ball on and then where to hit it. Your net partner could then have time to squeeze the middle and look to poach the return. As always if you make a great volley poach don't forget to thank your partner for setting you up and help make you look good!

A Heritage Perspective - 75 Years This Month: Torry Bryant



Erik van Dillen, Scott Schroder, Torry Bryant, Bill Sherrard

After speaking with some of our long-time members, I'm told that when they were Juniors, **Torry Bryant** and **Erik van Dillen** were known as the Golden Boys at the PTC. The two of them had the tennis game, they had the looks, they had the girls, and they still have the stories. Erik will be featured in June's Drop Shot, so we'll focus on his partner-in-crime this month.

Torry's mother was an outstanding tennis player while his father was an avid player. They joined the club in 1939. Unlike today where parents usually follow their children's activities (soccer, baseball, etc), kids back in the 50's used to have to follow their parent's activities. With his parents being very active members, Torry was "forced" to grow up playing tennis at the club. It all paid off for him as he excelled as a Junior. He started playing the National Hard Court Championships held annually at the PTC. Playing against the top young players in

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the country, although never eeking out a championship, he always gave them a real battle. Besides playing in the Hard Courts from the age of 10 thru 18, Torry played many tournaments and was highly ranked each year. Torry said that he knew his game was getting good when the top senior men at the club would ask him to join them as their 4th (not a common occurrence in those days).

Torry was raised in Woodside and played #1 on the high school team that ranked #3 in Northern California. He carried that success to CSM where he again played #1 on their highly ranked team. San Jose State was his next stop before joining the Navy where he was a helicopter co-pilot during the Vietnam War. After the service, he returned to the Peninsula where he worked in Sales & Marketing for several companies.

Torry became a senior member at the club in 1971. Except for the military and seven years when his family relocated to Southern California, he has spent his whole life at the club. He was elected club President in 1992, served on the Board during three separate occasions, and chaired each of the Board committees at various times. Torry was also very involved with all of the tournaments held at the club. His favorites were the National Hard Courts and the Cal State Seniors. Thinking back to the Hard Courts, he said it was a great time for the club as every member participated. Can you imagine the logistics for hosting 500+ kids? The men physically prepared the club and courts, the women made hundreds of lunches everyday, and everyone else would be involved with transportation and housing.

Some other fond memories from years ago included the Tuesday night get-togethers held monthly. Most of the club families would attend these events where tennis and dinner was on tap. He also misses the open Saturday play where the players simply came down without pre-planned matches like today. Back in those days, everyone who showed up was worked into a game. The members were very close and it seemed like everyone participated in most activities.

So far, his story sounds like a real Golden Boy. Ahhh, if you only knew. Let's start out with the boy's locker room. Back in those days, the lockers used to be made out of wood. Torry and a couple of other unnamed Juniors used to go in and hit the hot water full blast in the showers to create a steam bath. Needing a little time for it to work, they would go get lunch and bring it back to the locker room. Then they would sit back and wait for an hour or so and then....pop, pop, pop was heard coming out from inside the lockers. The sound was actually gut strings popping off of other Junior wooden racquets.

Like most tournaments today, being coached or taking a phone call was not allowed during the Hard Courts. Torry remembers playing in the 15's and not serving very well against his opponent on court #1. All of a sudden, a call over the loud speaker announced, "phone call for Torry Bryant." He couldn't leave to take it naturally, and continued to play. The announcement came again, and then again a minute later. Finally, he got permission to take the call in between games and the voice on the phone said, "Throw the ball up higher." It was a club member trying to help out andit worked. He threw the ball up higher, started serving better and won the match.

When asked the reason why he got so good at doubles, he said that he used to play a lot of national tournaments where the kids were always housed with local families. Towards the end of the tournament, there would always be a big dance. The only problem is that if you lost early, you had to leave the tournament. So the only way to make it to the dance was to keep winning each day. Let's just say that he did whatever he could to keep playing so he could make all of the dances.

A couple of final memories - **Torry, Erik van Dillen, Craig Parsons & Craig Zimmerman** were playing doubles on court #1 when Craig's brother Bruce Parsons (non-member) was watching the match. Ten years later, Bruce came back to visit at the club and there were the same four playing on court #1. Bruce was astounded to see the same guys playing and made a big deal about it. Ten years after that (no kidding), Bruce came by to visit again and guess who was playing on court #1. Bruce has never stopped talking about it since. One of Torry's favorite memories was when big Bill Bruno got so mad at his wooden racquet that he threw it from the deuce side of court #1 all the way to the roof of Anthony Paz's house (the house next to court #3). The record still stand today. Finally, he longs for the Gin Rummy tournaments that he started for the club. Back in those days, there would be up to fifty guys playing and the one catch that Torry and Erik set was that each team had to come in costume (same hat, same tie, same shoes, whatever the theme was that year). Don't worry guys, I promise to never have a theme dress for my poker tournaments.

I think you get the picture of how much he contributed and how much fun he had here at the club. They were certainly the golden times for our friend Torry - the golden boy.



Our tennis court contractor erecting the new fence on the front courts.



Washing the front courts in preparation for the petromat overlay



Works applying hot oil and a fabric material on top of our old courts over which the new asphalt will be laid.



Oil gets sprayed on the courts and then the fabric gets rolled over the top



**Paving machine laying down 2-3” of new asphalt.
Roller compacting the new asphalt.**

Our contractor is checking for low spots.



**A patching material is
poured into low spots and
leveled to reduce “bird
baths” on our new courts**



New perimeter fence being installed along our east property line. This was needed to correct deficiencies related to protecting our new pool per County Health requirements.

Some of the new plants that have already been delivered that are part of our new landscape plans





Above, the trellis is being erected along court 3. A similar trellis is also part of the new Chatham entrance.



Left, Jim Fregosi helping with some of the painting. We also had help from members Ron Martinucci and Bill Rogers on painting the exterior of the Club



The sidewalk concrete was replaced along with rebuilding the cinder block columns that once served as the construction entrance into our club

PENINSULA TENNIS CLUB May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	May 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 6 PM - 8 PM Womens 3.5	15 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.0	16 11 AM - 1 PM Super Sr. Mens	17 5 PM - 8 PM Opening Day Ceremony
18 1 PM - 3 PM Mens 3.5	19 6 PM - 8 PM Womens 3.5	20 5:30 PM - 7 PM Board Meeting 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 4.0	21 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.0	22 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.5	23	24
25	26	27 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 4.0	28 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.0	29 11 AM - 1 PM Super Sr. Mens 3.5 6 PM - 8 PM Womens 3.5	30 7 AM - 12 PM BHS Staff Breakfast	31
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

