

June 2008

President's Update



Stuart Batchelor

75 Years Old and Still Going Strong

The June Drop Shot marks a milestone – the end of the Capital Improvement Project and the re-opening of the Club. On May 17th the Club hosted 300 club guests to our re-opening. A grand party it was with all the new facilities being put to full use. If you have not yet been to the club to experience it first hand, we hope to see you soon.

While the front courts, pool, and spa are back in service, we continue with several smaller projects. We still have lots of painting to complete, we are waiting on the delivery of toilet partitions, the rebuilding of the clubroom bar, and the pool heaters will be turned on the week of June 9th. We appreciate everyone's understanding and patience as we get these final details completed.

The #1 question being asked is "will the back courts get a new paint job?" YES is the simple answer. The issue is when. This and other related issues will be presented at the July Membership Meeting and the Board hopes you will attend. More details will be forthcoming later in the month.

Upcoming Events

•
van Dillen Men's & Women's
Doubles Championships

June 7 & 8

•
van Dillen Doubles Championships
Weekend Cocktail Party

June 7

•
Twilight Tennis/Dinner

June 26

June is important for a host of other reasons. The school year is ending and many of our families are celebrating graduations, mine included. The summer junior program begins June 16th. Our summer staff will be starting including some faces known to club members and others who will be joining us for the first time. Please welcome them as we could not operate the club during the summer without their help. Next weekend the van Dillen Men's & Women's Doubles Championships will be played with a record number of teams participating. There is also a cocktail party with hors d'oeuvre on Saturday evening, June 7th which all members are encouraged to attend. The cost is only \$15 and you must sign-up in the clubroom or call Bill Jepsen with your RSVP. See Social news in this newsletter for more info.

Bob Sinclair and I want to again thank everyone who has given of their time and effort to support the Capital Improvement Project. This project would not have been possible without everyone's participation.

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Editor's Note

Thank you to all the members who helped kick off our summer season by attending our **Opening Day Ceremony** (see Social report below). **Nancy Batchelor** naturally doesn't list herself in her thank you's, so I'd like to do so here. Nancy and her Social Committee did a fantastic job with the event. Well over a hundred man-hours went into the organizing, purchasing, setting up and managing the event. The summer is about to begin, so let's keep that family spirit going! We have some great events planned during the next few months.

Manager's Corner



Bill Jepsen

We expect a very busy summer at the PTC. We have many new families and the number of kids will be the highest we have ever had. We need everyone's cooperation and understanding to make sure it is a safe and fun summer.

Printed in the front of the 2008 Club Roster is a listing of the Club Rules. While rules tend to take the fun out of things, they are the rules that our Club has and we ask that all our members abide by them. Those that are of the most concern during the busy summer months include:

General Rules:

- Unsupervised children under age 10 are not allowed on the premises at any time
- No one under the age of 18 may;
 - remain at the club after closing time (6pm summer hrs. June 16th - Aug 17th) (5pm non-summer hrs.)
 - use the fitness facility at any time
 - possess a key to the Club
 - access or use the main clubroom unless supervised
- Members must sign in their guests upon arrival

- Group parties where non-members will be attending must be approved in advance by the club manager
- Be considerate using cell phones when at the club

Pool & Spa Rules:

- No one under age 18 is allowed in or near the hot tub during daytime operation hours (9am - 6pm, 7 days a week)
- Unsupervised children under age 14 are not allowed in or near the pool or spa at any time
- Food and beverages are prohibited in the pool & spa
- Kids may not bring toys into the spa
- No jumping into the spa
- The spa has a maximum capacity of 11
- Parents must be attentive and responsible for their children at all times regardless of their age

Tennis

- Proper tennis attire must be worn on the courts at all times
- No black or hard-soled shoes on the courts
- Shirts (not "tank tops" for males)
- Do not walk across occupied courts
- Only water should be brought onto the courts
- USTA league teams must use 10 point tie-break when playing matches on weekends

In addition, the rear court gate locks have now been changed and your new key will work for access to the back courts. *Your old club key is now obsolete and can be tossed.*

Tennis News

Now that our beautiful front courts are finished, PTC tennis activities are back in full swing! The draws have been posted for the Men's Singles Tournament and matches are underway. Come on down to the Club on Sunday June 29th to see both the 3.5 and 4.0 finals - we guarantee that you will see some great tennis. Before that, the van Dillen Men's and Women's Doubles Championships will take place on Saturday and Sunday June 7th and 8th. Don't miss out on your chance to play...be sure to sign up in the Clubroom before June 3rd.

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Women's and Men's finals will both take place on Sunday June 8th so mark that date on your calendar and come watch the best doubles teams square off against each other.

Up next in July (July 11th, 12th and 13th to be exact) is the ever-popular Calcutta Tournament for both guys and gals. For our newer members, the Calcutta is a round robin team tournament which is preceded by an evening of merriment and lively betting on the teams as they are "revealed" that evening at dinner. The Calcutta dinner takes place July 11th, the men play on July 12th and the women play on July 13th. Sign up sheets will be posted by mid June. Sign up individually for this one as everyone is placed on a team (you find out who is on your team at the dinner). This event is always a hoot and you don't want to miss it. We look forward to seeing you there.

A Heritage Perspective – 75 Years

This Month:

Erik van Dillen



Without question, ***Erik van Dillen*** is the most celebrated PTC member to ever take to our courts. From Davis Cup, to #1 World Ranking, to beating some of the best tennis players in the world, our "local" kid hit the big time. Some of our older members told me that they knew this fair-haired kid was going to be a great player. As mentioned in last month's story featuring ***Torry Bryant*** (his Junior partner-in-crime), they played at a very high level – both on and off the courts. We had fun detailing some of their

pranks (the ones we could share that is) when they were Juniors in last month's Drop Shot, so we'll focus more on Erik's tennis legacy in this article.

Paul and Babes van Dillen became PTC members in 1950, following the arrival from their native Holland in 1945. Paul was an avid player who loved competitive men's doubles as well as sharing tennis with his wife Babes, and young sons Paul and Erik. Along with Junior pals ***Torry & Craig Zimmerman***, Erik would spend almost every summer day at the PTC. They developed their tennis game at every opportunity. If they saw a group leaving a court, they would quickly run to get on and start playing. Sometimes they would only get a game or two in before "kicked off" by older members wanting to play. That meant that during the mornings and early afternoons, they would have a lot of non-court time. It didn't mean that the competitive juices stopped flowing. Besides various table games, they would create games in and out of the pool to keep busy. Back in those days, you would often see the ping pong table situated between the two old pools. Four kids would play a game and everything was in play. This meant that in order to reach an angled shot, one of the defenders would literally have to fly in the air trying to return the shot – usually landing in the pool.

They did have the afternoons to practice and many of these Juniors really excelled. Erik of course led the pack. He played #1 at Burlingame High School (along with Zimmerman & the Cookson boys) where they routinely won the CCS under Coach Jack Darrah. At that time, Erik was rated #1 in NorCal and had the chance to showcase his stuff at the National Junior Hardcourts held each year at the PTC. His play was legendary as he won national championships in every age division – the 12's, 14's, 16's, & 18's.

Erik says that hosting the Hardcourts is what set the PTC apart from any other club. If you read the historical prospective articles during the last three months, you'll notice that a common thread between ***Erik, Bob & Betty Cookson, John Schroeder and Torry Bryant*** was the

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importance of the Hardcourts to the PTC. Everyone in the club participated in one way or the other. It was the one time of year when they were in the national spotlight. To illustrate the caliber of young players the Hardcourts brought in, Erik and I concluded that there were seven participants who are now in the Tennis Hall of Fame (Stan Smith, John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors, Pete Sampras, Michael Chang, Billy Jean Moffit (King) and Rosie Casals). Together, this group has won 98 Grand Slams and nearly 700 ATP tournaments. This doesn't even count the Davis Cup or Wrightman Cup victories.

From Burlingame, he went to USC where he played #1 singles & doubles on the #1 team in the country. There were a couple seasons where the team didn't lose any matches during their dual meets – unbelievable but true. After USC, Erik went to the business school at USF. He soon turned pro and had a great career. Erik won one pro singles title and seventeen doubles titles. He has even beaten six #1's in the world.

His claim to fame however came in Davis Cup play. He played doubles with Stan Smith (1971–1973) on the team that lost to the Romanians in 1971 (3–2) in North Carolina. The next year brought a rematch with the Romanians – this time in Bucharest. This was the 1st time in 35 years that a Davis Cup final had been staged in Europe, since the U.S. & Australia has so dominated the Cup play. John Davis, grandson of Dwight Davis and founder of the Davis Cup was at the match and said, “it was the most exciting and most emotionally charged tennis match I've ever seen. The place was filled and all the Romanians were just screaming. It was a soccer-crowd mentality. Stan Smith, with that big, booming serve, had to wait up to 30 seconds for his second serve. There was too much noise.” The U.S. team encountered a host squad that made sure its linemen were corrupt and ready to help the home team win. Added intrigue was the ultra-tight security due to Cold War tensions and the death threats to America's Jewish players, Harold Solomon and Brian Gottfried. The match took place one month after the 1972 Munich Olympics where 11 Israeli athletes died.

After losing to the Elie Nastase in doubles with

Smith in 1971 Cup play, the Romanian papers quoted Nastase and partner Ion Tiriac in saying that Stan Smith will not see a ball hit his way. Hall of Famer Jack Kramer caught up with Erik the night before the big match and gave him a little advice. He told him to go out and take charge and don't wait for Stan to take the lead. Erik said that he used the advice to help them beat Nastase/Tiriac 6–2, 6–0, 6–3 and the U.S. to beat Romania 3–2. The next year, Erik/Smith and the U.S. Davis Cup team lost to Australia. That team featured two of the best players ever in Rod Laver and Don Newcombe. Erik calls Rod Laver the best player he ever faced. In more recent players, Erik gives the nod to Roger Federer as being the best all-round tennis player.

Today, Erik is the founder of van Dillen Partners, Inc. a sports marketing firm. Prior to that, he worked for IMG for twenty years. Erik currently sits on the Board of Directors at the PTC. On June 7–8, the club is hosting the always-popular van Dillen Men's Doubles Championship and the newly named van Dillen Women's Doubles Championship. This will be the 34th year that the van Dillen Tournament has been played at the PTC. The tournament got its start in 1974 with the gift to the Club of the “van Dillen Cup Trophy” from Babes, Paul Jr. and Erik, in loving memory of Paul van Dillen Sr. Erik discovered the exquisite, handcrafted silver “van Dillen Cup Trophy” during one of his tournaments in London. The van Dillen Cup resides in the PTC clubhouse and the tournament winner names are inscribed on its base. The tournament winners embody the highest level of tennis competition and sportsmanship within the Peninsula Tennis Club. The van Dillen Doubles Championship Tournament Cocktail Party is Saturday evening, June 7th. All members are encouraged to attend the party. Please see Social News for additional info.

Editor's Note: Always trying to provide complete and accurate stories, I was looking online and actually found a vintage Spalding Erik van Dillen tennis racquet for sale on eBay (posted on the clubhouse bulletin board). The description said, “one of a kind,” the same thing you could say about our most celebrated member.

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Membership News

Comings & goings...

Please help us welcome two new members/families to the club.

They are:

Mickey & Linda Podolsky 348-1668

Marilee Brooks 558-8406

We have had one new family submit their application during May.

They are:

Mark & Diane Bradley

Susan Lynch/Cathy Mishra (Sponsors)

Club News

Sad news to pass along, Ted Myers passed away May 11th. He is survived by his wife Peggy and his five children. Ted & Peggy became members of the club in 1983. He was a well-known physician and psychiatrist who for 25 years created and worked in volunteer medical clinics around the world for refugees and the poor. Ted & Peggy both traveled to Ethiopia and the Sudan, where they set up village-based medical programs and medical clinics. They also volunteered their work in Cuba and the Soviet Union. Tens of thousands of people owe him a debt of gratitude. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Peggy and their family.

Roster Update – Almost as fast as we printed the new PTC Roster it was out of date – new members, new phone numbers, new email addresses. The solution? The PTC web Roster. On our site <http://www.ptctennis.com/> you can click on “**Club Roster**” and get a continually updated list of phone numbers (home, work and cell) and email addresses (his and hers) of all senior members of PTC.

The first time you go to the web roster you will find a User Name and Password box. This helps keep a degree of privacy to our list. The user

name is “PTC” and the password is “1933” – the year we were founded. On most computers you can click a box to save that information in your computer and won’t have to enter it again. A handy feature of the site is that all email addresses when clicked will open a new message in your email program with the email address accurately in the “To:” box. Try it, you’ll like it! If you want to go directly to the web roster, bookmark

<http://www.ptctennis.com/ptcroster/>.

Check your listing and let us know if we have something to correct.

A big thank you goes out to Duncan Beardsley for taking over the Online Roster from **Dennis Mayer** & myself. He has revamped the site and made it more user-friendly. I know that everyone will appreciate it once you have the opportunity to try it out.

Club Anniversaries for June (5+ years)

Congratulations to the following members:

Bill Alexander 35 Years

Karen Harrigan 5 Years

Calling all Poker players – this fall, we will be hosting the 1st Annual Club Poker Championship. This event will feature dinner as well as a championship plaque that will have the winning member’s name engraved on it. For those who can’t wait until then, we have just initiated a condensed weekday tournament that will be held on Thursday afternoons once a month. We will also continue with our Friday evening tournaments held at various times throughout the year.

If you enjoy playing poker (even if you can only make one game a year), make sure you are on the player contact list. For our newer members, if you are interested in playing in future games, please contact:

Jeff Tateosian at jefftat@pacbell.net.

For those interested in cross training, swim camp for adults is being offered once again this

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summer at the BHS pool by the Burlingame Aquatics Club. The eight-week session is geared toward adult athletes with little or no experience in the world of swimming. The camp intends to give an overview of all four strokes, beginning with an extensive initial period focused solely on freestyle. The clinic will run from June 23rd through August 13th and classes will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8:15pm. The cost is \$168 and people can sign up through the [Burlingame Parks and Rec Dept - on line](#) or in person.

The first of four summer Twilight Tennis evenings will be held on Thursday, June 26th. This is your opportunity to play social tennis in a round robin format with members new and old. Informal tennis play begins at 5:30 followed by a BBQ at 7 pm. The PTC provides the entrée and set ups and everyone signs up for a salad, side dish or dessert (serving 8-10) to round out the buffet. There is a \$5 fee per person for this event. Look for more details at the club.

Social Events News

The PTC Opening Day Ceremony & BBQ was a HUGE success! When I say huge, I mean we had just shy of 300 people present to officially re-open the club. Kudos to the hardest working social committee for teaming together to pull off the largest party the club has seen in many years! Please thank the following people next time you see them: **Joni Amaroli, Marissa Hauselt, Lisa Rogers, Laura Hesselgren, Eileen Lewis, Boo DeWitt, Teri Gregory, Jeff Tateosian, Erica Reilly, Amy Fearn, Mary McGee & Dennis Mayer**- (we'll see you at the next event!) as well as our fearless leader, **Bob Sinclair**. Thanks also to our BBQ'ers: **Jeff Tsu, Steve Brooks, and Maris Laipeniaks**. A shout out to **Heather Sinclair and Lynn Currie** for the 11th hour rescue.

And onto the next event... The van Dillen Doubles Championship Weekend is fast approaching and we are hosting a Cocktail Party on Saturday, June 7 to celebrate the great doubles championship play. Tournament players as well as all members are encouraged to attend. All must sign up in the clubroom or call Bill Jepsen (347-1439) or email him at billjepsen@ptctennis.com with your RSVP. Please do so by June 3rd so that we can plan accordingly. There is a \$15 fee for this event. Cocktails and hors D'oeuvre will be served beginning at 5:30 pm.

Director of Tennis News



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ADULT TENNIS:

USTA League tennis is in full swing and our teams are starting their home stands here at the club. We are looking for some home court advantage in the next few weeks so come out and support your fellow club members and teammates.

PTC League Team Records

Women

3.5 Record 2-5

Men

3.0 Record 3-4

3.5 Record 2-3

4.0 Record 3-4

Upcoming events

June 7-8	van Dillen Men's & Women's Doubles Championships
June 26	Twilight Tennis
June 29	Men's Singles Finals
July 6	Woods 'n Whites

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- **Summer Women's Drop-In Clinic.**
Days and times TBA.
- **Men's Saturday a.m. Doubles Practice from 7:00-8:30am.** June 14th. Call to sign up.

A reminder to members to keep Labor Day open for the Annual Burlingame Swing for Schools Tennis Tournament. Great event supporting local schools.

PRO TENNIS:

The sudden retirement of Justine Henin sent shock waves through the tennis world this past May. She is only 25 but has been playing on the WTA Tour since she was 15 years old. Personally I loved the way she played the game and brought back that wonderful one handed backhand to the women's game. She was criticized I know for her actions against Amelie Mauresmo at the Australian Open in 2007 but I think she was one of the fiercest competitors out there. I think her competitive spirit, desire, flair, and all-round game will be greatly missed. Comeback in 2009 maybe?

One of the Serbian Princesses will make a bold run for the women's title and I would love Fed to make it happen in the men's this year but I think the Raging Bull from Majorca is just too tough to beat on the crushed red brick at Roland Garros.

Junior Tennis News

Congratulations to Junior member *Spencer Talmadge* for winning the 2008 WCAL and CCS Championships. Spencer is a junior at Serra High School in San Mateo. Spencer went 29-1 in a great season for the Serra Padres. Junior member ***Taylor Chaparro*** (Burlingame) also had a great season making it to the CCS Semi-Finals.

With Middle School Tennis just ending, congratulations to all Jr. Academy players for participating and representing RS Academy and the PTC so well.

Welcome new Junior Members.

Allan Verkhovski, a 14 year-old Academy player will be attending Burlingame High in September.

Eric Dennis, an 11 year-old Academy player will be attending Bowditch School.

RS ACADEMY SUMMER TENNIS REGISTRATION IS AT WWW.RSTENNIS.COM

Group clinics are filling up. Register now!

JUNIOR DAY is Monday, June 16th. 9am-12pm. ALL AGES! FUN MORNING OF GAMES, DRILLS, AND COMPETITION FOR ALL MEMBER JUNIORS.

Upcoming Events -

June 28/29

PTC Junior Invitational Tournament

Boys/Girls - 14's Novice and Challenger

Boys/Girls - 18's Open

Roy Evars Sportsmanship Award

Aug 1-3

USTA Novice / Challenger Tournament

Boys/Girls - 14-10's Novice and Challenger

TIP OF THE MONTH:

A few courtesies for fellow members:

- If members are playing on court 1, please walk around and use gate to enter courts 2 and/or 3. Please use the same to exit.
- Pick up ball cans, water bottles, cups, and trash when exiting your court.
- Pick up all balls from your court when finished playing. (Including ball machine court).
- Wear Tennis specific shoes and tennis attire on all courts.

Cheers! Riaz

June 2008 Court Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1 PM - 3 PM Mens 3.5, Courts 1-3	2 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.5, Courts 1-3	3 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 4.0, Courts 1-3	4 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.0, Courts 1-3	5 10:30 AM - 12 PM Sr.Mens65s, Cts. 1-3 6 PM - 8 PM Wmns 3.5, Cts 1-3	6 8 AM - 4 PM Van Dillen Dbls.	7 8 AM - 4 PM Van Dillen day 2
8 8 AM - 4 PM Van Dillen & Wmns Dbls.	9 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.0, Courts 1-3	10 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 4.0, Courts 1-3	11 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.5, Courts 1-3	12 6 PM - 8 PM Wmns 3.5, Cts 1-3	13 10:30 AM - 12 PM SrMens65s, Cts 1-3	14
15	16 9 AM - 12 PM Jr. Open Day	17 5:30 PM - 7 PM Board Meeting 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 4.0, Courts 1-3	18 6 PM - 8 PM Wmns 3.5, Cts 1-3	19 10:30 AM - 12 PM SrMens65s, Cts.1-3 6 PM - 8 PM Mens 3.0, Courts 1-3	20	21 1 PM - 3 PM Mens 3.5, Courts 1-3
22 1 PM - 3 PM Wmns 3.5, Courts 1-3	23	24	25	26 5 PM - 9 PM Twilight Tennis	27 8 AM - 6 PM Jr. Tournament	28 8 AM - 6 PM Jr. Tournament
29 8 AM - 6 PM Jr.Tourny & Mens Sncls	30	1 6 PM - 8 PM 8.0 50 Mixed, Courts 1-3. 6 PM - 8 PM 8.0 50 Mixed, Courts 1-3.	2	3	4	5
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat