

August 2008

President's Update



Stuart Batchelor

How fast time flies..... It's been almost three months since we completed our Capital Improvement Project and while a few loose ends are still being completed, the Club is certainly back in full swing. The pool, spa and BBQ have never gotten so much use. On a Thursday evening in early July, there were 60+ members with their families enjoying a beautiful evening at the Club. As we quickly move into August the summer will start winding down. The tennis camps will be coming to an end in mid-month and schools will start up soon after. All-n-all, the Club has performed well and has been enjoyed by a large percentage of the membership.

Due to the greater use of our facilities it is imperative that all our members know and follow the rules of the Club. We have a limited staff whose responsibilities do not include picking up after our members and for this reason need members to help out wherever possible.

Upcoming Events

**USTA NorCal
Junior Tournament
August 1-3**

•

**Twilight Tennis/Dinner
August 21**

•

**Cal State Senior
Championships
August 25-Sept1**

•

**PTC 75th Anniversary
Celebration Week
September 10-13**

•

1. Please clean-up after yourself and kids when using the club (e.g. pool area, locker rooms, etc.)
2. Kids under 14 must be supervised in the pool & spa at all times
3. Kids under 7 may not use the spa
4. Kids may not have food or drinks in the pool or spa

Enjoy the remainder of your summer and we look forward to seeing you at the club.

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

Editor's Note

by Jeff Tateosian

As you'll read in the Club News section, we are putting together the events and activities for our 75th Anniversary and the week leading up to it. We are open for suggestions of activities for the week, as well as any ideas for the Gala Dinner/Dance on Saturday evening. As always, we also welcome anyone who would like to help in any way with the activities. Please contact **Bob Sinclair** or **Nancy Batchelor** with your ideas.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Bill Jepsen** for his three years of hard work at the club. The position was a nice change of pace for him coming off his previous sales career and now he's ready to move on to his next challenge. Help me in wishing him well when you see him during his last month at the club. We will miss you my friend.

Manager's Corner



Bill Jepsen

Wow! I'm humbled at the number of members who have emailed me or dropped by to tell me they're sorry to see me go and that they've appreciated my efforts in my 3 years at PTC. I'm glad to be

able to call many PTC members and staff new friends that I will hopefully stay in touch with as I make my way into the next chapter of my "career." Thank you --- it's been a fun 3 years.

The button that turns on the Hot Tub jets has been repaired. When turning the jets on, please just touch the button lightly once

and it will start. It was damaged by members unknowingly hitting the button harder than necessary and multiple times per attempt.

Tennis Events News

by Beckie Showen

The PTC's very own "Beijing Olympics" Calcutta Tournament took place in mid-July. The weekend kicked off with a terrific cocktail and dinner party on Friday evening. Kudos to **Lisa Rogers and Sharon Marson** for the fabulous Chinese food dinner, to **Nancy Batchelor** for her creative input on the "Olympics" theme decorations, and to **Jeff Tateosian** for his selection of outrageously funny songs for each player! On the men's side, Team USA - captained by **Steve Livingston** and included **Brian Desler, Jerry Ceglia, Dan McGee, Ben Chew and Mark Percy** - handily beat second place Team France - captained by **Gerry Sydorak** and included **Ron Martinucci, David Hyman, Mike Buckmaster, George Mahaffey and Dave Andrews**. Team Argentina - which included **Alan Klein, Eric Brand, Brad Craig, Joe Bojues, Craig Andrews** and was captained by **Bob Sinclair** - took third place. Good job men and thanks to all who participated! Unfortunately, the women's side of the Calcutta was cancelled due to lack of sign-ups. We'll hope for a better turnout next year.

Up next is the always much anticipated **Team Tennis Tournament!** Please note that we have changed the date of this one from Sunday September 21st to Saturday September 13th to coincide with the 75th Anniversary Gala weekend! The tournament will likely run from about 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM or so. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the clubhouse a few weeks before the tour-

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

nament. It's a great way to meet new members and shouldn't be missed. We need volunteers to help out for this large event.

League players – the USTA has just updated everyone's ratings for the year. Check out their website to see if your rating has changed.

Membership News

*by Melissa Smith
Comings & goings...*

Please help us welcome our newest member/family to the club. They are:

Greg & Rose Land 343-9951

We have had two new families submit their application during July. They are:

- Chris & Tim McMurdo

David Marcus/Stan Rockman (Sponsors)

- Todd Foster

Torry Bryant/Steve Brooks (Sponsors)

The membership committee is hosting a new member Meet 'N Greet on Sunday August 3rd from 4:00 PM-5:00 PM for applicants on the waiting list. This will take place after the Nike Jr. Tournament, so stick around and meet some of our soon-to-be members.

Club News

Mark your calendar for the event of the year....or century....the 75th Anniversary Gala on Saturday, September 13. There will be a whole week of events celebrating the heritage of the PTC culminating in the Gala evening on the 13th.

Confirmed events as of this writing are:

- **PTC Backgammon Tournament**
Wednesday (10th) afternoon
- **PTC Gin Tournament**
Thursday (11th) evening
- **PTC Poker Tournament**
Friday (12th) afternoon
- **Team Tennis Tournament**
Saturday (13th) morning
- **PTC 75th Gala Dinner/Dance**
Saturday (13th) evening

Full details will be passed on as we get closer, but we wanted to give everyone a heads up on the activities so that you can reserve dates for the events you want to participate in. It should be quite a week.

This weekend is the PTC Challenger and Novice Junior Tournament for boys and girls 10 to 14. Starting Friday at 9:30 AM and 8:00 AM on Saturday and Sunday, this promises to be a great tournament and fun to watch.

Entries have opened for the California State Senior Tournament. This tournament is divided into 12 age divisions and is open to men and women aged 30 to 85. It is a great opportunity to get some tournament experience. Every five years starts a separate division (30-35-40 up to the 85's). We are also looking for volunteers to man the check-in desk and other small duties. If you have any time to donate, please contact **Steve Brooks or Riaz**. The Tournament will run from August 25th to the 31st.

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

Bob Millhauser	20 Years
Chris & Molly Dillon	5 Years
Conrad Mezzeta	5 Years

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

The 4.0 women had a good season making it into the playoffs, but unfortunately lost in the first round of playoffs to terrific Sharon Heights squad 1-4.

Our Senior Mixed 8.0 team is currently in first place with 2/3 of the season complete! (Must be something in our new water lines)

The 7.5 women's combo will be starting next month under the leadership of Sharon Marson. The PTC will field a Senior Women's 4.0 team starting in the fall, also captained by Sharon Marson.

The Thursday night yoga classes will be starting up again sometime in September with JeanYves. Look for details in the next Drop Shot.

The Burlingame Community Tennis Tournament is set to take place again on Labor Day at the BHS tennis courts. The tournament benefits our six Burlingame Middle and Elementary Schools. **Don Clark**, one of our new members started the tournament a few years ago. Registration forms can be found on the clubhouse bulletin board for the very popular and rewarding tournament.

Social Events News

by Nancy Batchelor

Mama Mia! Pizza, pasta, and garlic bread galore as well as great Italian music provided by our own **"Don" Tateosian** made everyone feel That's Amore at this past Twilight Tennis. Thank you also to **"Don" Amaroli**, **"Don" Martinucci** and PTC Godfather **"Don" Giannini** for adding a little "flavor" and assisting us in giving away our Italian door prizes. A huge thanks to **Riaz** and his staff for helping to coordinate fun

round robin tennis for all comers on. Your social committee was hard at work creating the ambiance of little Italy right here in Burlingame. Thank you **Boo DeWitt** and **Erica Reilly** for the thankless job of coordinating the food pickup. Kudos to **Marissa Hauselt**, **Lisa Rogers**, **Teri Gregory**, **Eileen Lewis**, **Joni Amaroli**, and **Marci Martinucci** for helping to make the event a huge success. (Thanks also to **Trisha Hagey** for helping set up while your little one was having their tennis lesson!)

Onto the next event.... August 21 will bring summer to a close with our final Twilight Tennis. (The September Twilight Tennis has been canceled as we have many events scheduled to celebrate the PTC's 75th anniversary). There will be a sign-up sheet posted in the clubroom mid-month. Please make sure to sign up prior to the event as we must know how many people are attending in order to secure enough food/beverage.

Director of Tennis News



Riaz Shivji

PRO TENNIS

What a battle for the Wimbledon Championship last month. Roger Federer, 5 time Champ, 12 time Grand Slam winner, 40 match winning streak at Wimby against Rafa Nadal, 4 time French Open Champ and looking to be the first man since Bjorn Borg in 1980 to win both the French Open and Wimbledon in the same year. Something had to give! Two points from victory, the No. 1-ranked Federer couldn't pull it out, instead succumbing to No. 2 Nadal 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-7 (8), 9-7 Sunday night in a 4-hour, 48-minute test of wills that was the longest men's final in Wimbledon history -

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

and quite possibly the greatest. Nadal managed to regroup after blowing a two-set lead, managed to recover after wasting two match points in the fourth-set tiebreaker, managed to hold steady when Federer needed only two points to end the match while ahead 5-4 in the fifth. He earned his fifth Grand Slam title, but first away from the French Open, by showing fortitude on his serve, saving 12 of 13 break points. He did it by breaking serve four times – twice as many times as Federer lost serve in his previous six matches combined. And Nadal did it by being better from the baseline, winning 24 of 38 points that lasted 10 or more strokes.

Nadal lost to Federer in the 2006 Wimbledon final in four sets, and the 2007 final in five. Although the latter was certainly suspenseful, it featured neither the drama nor the all-around excellence of the 2008 Final, which ended at 9:15 p.m. when Federer pushed a forehand into the net on Nadal's fourth match point.

Tennis was the big winner on Sunday, July 6th as these two men put everything they had into the most dramatic, exhilarating, suspenseful, and brilliant tennis matches ever! If you didn't see it, get a copy and watch every moment from start to finish. It will inspire you and make you feel good that you play this great game even if you wanted the Swiss guy to win like I did.

After Euro Soccer and now Rafa at Wimby it looks 2008 is Spain's year!

ADULT TENNIS

Also on July 6th we had our 4th Annual Woods N Whites Round Robin. Over 35 members were out on the courts between 8:00 AM – noon trying to play with those

old wood Jack Kramer's, Dunlop Maxply's, Bancroft's, Slazenger's, and Tad Davis's. After the first few clunking mis-hits everyone settled down and started to play some good old fashioned controlled tennis. Power was not rewarded but touch, finesse, slice, drops, and dinks were worth every penny. Once in a while I looked over at a member and they struck the ball sweet right in the spot and a big smile would emerge on their face. As play continued, more and more players were finding the sweet spot and play was semi-competitive and most of all fun. Players mixed and matched and played 8 games total and then moved up and down the courts. Of course with Wimby on the big screen, many players had their eyes glued to the Federer vs Nadal match.

A big thank you to **Nancy Batchelor** and **Marissa Hauselt** for putting on a great spread of coffee, strawberries and cream, scones, and mimosa's! Thanks also to **Mark Percy** and **Dennis Mayer** for their work on the great poster and sign-up sheet.

The Women's Drop-In Clinic will start up again in mid September.

The Men's Drop-In Clinic will continue on Saturday mornings from 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM. If you would like to be put on the list for notification please email me at riaz@rstennis.com

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

Junior Tennis News

BANK OF WEST CLASSIC BALLKIDS

These Junior members were on the super Ballkids Team that got to work the Finals at BOWC this year. A great team and a great time! Congratulations to:

Andrew Benson, Erik Chaney, Brooke Tsu, Saamy Phan, Zach Martinucci, Alex Harrigan, Reed Smith, Allan Verkhovski, Brian Kyaw, Palmer Mendelson, Mathew Hauselt, Scott Brunstein.

Junior Team Tennis is well under way and our teams have been playing matches against other tennis clubs and teams. We are fielding 6 Junior teams this year and for the first time have a G12's and B12's team. Matches are 4 singles and 3 doubles. All our teams are in contention for Area League Playoffs but the most important thing is that our players play hard and use the **STAR** motto on and off the court. **(Sportsmanship, Teamwork, Attitude – Positive, and Respect)**

We are about to start Session # 7 and our tennis camps have been buzzing all summer. Many new kids and little rippers out there on the courts. My staff of instructors are still enthusiastic, energetic, and remain positive with all our players. As we head into the home stretch, I just want to mention them and give them props for their hard work and positive attitude. **Thanks to Albert Vial, Max Willis, Chris Batchelor, Gigi Lewis, and Taylor Chaparro.**

Spin to Win!
Riaz Shivji USPTA
Director of Tennis
(650) 347-1440
riaz@rstennis.com

A Heritage Perspective – 75 Years

This Month: Rob Delantoni

I recently visited with **Rob Delantoni** to find out about his many years at the PTC. Never short on answers, Rob shared his story with me.



Well, it all started a long long time ago. I was born a poor Italian boy, but I always like President McKinley anyway. Some of the old timers at the club may remember my father, John Delantoni, who was an avid bat mitten player and champion ping pong player during the 1940's. He picked up tennis at age 35 (a late bloomer), got hooked, and shortly became a very competitive San Francisco player, playing mostly at the Cal Club and at Golden Gate Park.

In 1951, he and my mother had had enough of the San Francisco fog and, after finding out there was a tennis club in Burlingame, moved here to join it. My mother also played tennis, so I often accompanied them to the PTC to hang out during the summer or after school. I was about 9 years old before I was able to walk on a court for more than 3 minutes before being "booted" by adult members, and when I was finally able to play, I got hooked too.

I still remember my first match (arranged by my parents, who stood nearby to protect us 9 year olds from the predatory adult members of that era that wanted our court) as I played doubles with **Torry Bryant, Bill Sherrard, and Cheryl Spurgeon.** Or maybe

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

it was **Scott Schroeder**. I can't remember now – I'm old.

I soon found myself playing here every summer and entering the Junior tournaments around the Bay Area. I am proud to say, at age 10, I won the first tournament I entered in, the San Mateo City novice tournament held on the San Mateo High School courts, and I still have the trophy from that event. I had delusions that maybe I would go undefeated in my tennis career, making history as the only undefeated tennis pro who ever lived!

But it was not to be. My next tournament was the National Jr. Hardcourts at the PTC, where I was promptly dismissed 6-1, 6-2 in the first round. I was depressed for days. My unbeaten string was broken!

But the following year, my mother started carting me around the Bay Area to play Junior tournaments, resulting in my earning a modest Junior tennis ranking each year, usually between 10 and 20.

I'll never forget the first time **Erik van Dillen** beat me, in a stunning upset on court 4. I was on the CAL tennis team, fully grown, big, and hairy, so I thought I maybe I could show 11 year-old Erik a few pointers. After losing 2 sets to him, I thought "Hey, anyone can have a lucky day, but this kid could be pretty good some day if he practices hard and drinks all his milk." Of course, now he's afraid to play me, but I'll track him down.

After Erik, I went on to score some other notable losses in tournament play; I have lost to Stan Smith (6-1, 6-0), **Tom Brown** (6-1, 6-1), and Raul Contreras (Mexican Davis Cup star) 6-4, 5-7, 7-5. Actually, after that first novice tournament, I'm not

sure I ever actually beat anyone except **Steve Balchios**, but that was doubles.

The PTC has changed a lot over the years. In the 1950s, women couldn't play on Wednesdays at all (it was "Men's Day"), and most women were afraid to even come into the club on that day, as they would suffer the scowls of disapproving men. Kids (like me) were often kicked off courts so adults could play. So many things – I remember that we were lucky to get balls to play with that had less than 8 sets on them.

My father, an Old Mr. Boston liquor salesman, always kept a big supply of the hard stuff in his locker for the general enjoyment of his men friends. Since the boys shared the men's locker room with the men, the locker room would often fall strangely quiet whenever one of us kids entered, so we wouldn't hear any bad words or see any open liquor containers. Today, all us men are glad to see that **Jeff Tsu** is carrying on PTC "Free-Liquor-in-the Locker" tradition. Atta boy Jeff!

Spirited swimming pool games like "dibble dabble" would sometimes have 10 kids take over the (now historical) small pool, and would sometimes get so vigorous that real injuries would result. Competitive "Hearts" was the game most of us kids played, and when emotions ran high, cards would be thrown high or torn to pieces. Sometimes even scuffles would break out. We were an unruly bunch of kids in the early days.

The old pool had a great diving board in those days, and nobody ever got hurt on it (hint hint). The courts were black on black, and we LOVED it. The old guy in the snack bar (Mr. Robinson was his name, I think) used to have contests with himself to see how long he could ignore a kid who wanted

The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

a soda before finally serving him (I think his record was a 32 minutes). We had a big lawn (where our current clubhouse is) and people would actually lay out towels and sun bathe. The ping pong table had a 5" gash in one end from frustrated Juniors smashing their paddles into it, so when we played ping pong, we always aimed for "The Gash." Ahh, the good old days.

When I was about 13, I remember the day my father (a former California State Champion Table Tennis player) arranged a ping pong match in the old clubroom with one of our best Junior ping pong players, Frank Wedertz. He toyed with 17 year old Frank for about 10 minutes, showing off some of his trick shots and stuff, until Frank had taken a 18-2 lead. Then he incredibly started knocking off every ball, most for an aces, before winning 22-20, to every one's amazement and my immense 13 year old pride. Even I didn't know he was that good!

And of course there was the time my Grandfather was kicked out of the club for teaching the kids gambling, but you're probably not interested in that story.

In the old days, tennis was not a very popular sport. Tennis players were in the minority, and many thought of tennis as a "sissy sport." To play tennis meant participating in a second class sport, and sometimes being teased by guys who played the real sports (football, baseball, basketball, etc). So members of tennis clubs, as an abused minority, were really passionate avid players. I remember when our club was almost always crowded with noisy adults and kids, when the men would play without their shirts on to get a more even tan (and prove they weren't sissies too), and when courts were routinely hard to get. It seemed like virtually every member played tennis. I am looking forward to the day when this level of activity returns to the club, and when all members over 60 who live in Burlingame and have kids named Jonathan and Jessica will get free cheeseburgers and have priority on court 1 at all times.



August 2008 Court Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	August 1 8 AM - 6 PM USTA Jr. Tournament - All courts	2 8 AM - 6 PM USTA Jr. Tournament - All courts
3 9 AM - 3 PM USTA Jr. Tournament - All courts.	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 10 AM - 6 PM Summer Jr. Closing - All courts.	16 1 PM - 3 PM 8.0 50 Mixed Courts 1-3.
17	18	19 5:30 PM - 7 PM Board Meeting - Clubroom.	20	21 5 PM - 9 PM Twilight Tennis III - All courts.	22	23 1 PM - 3 PM 8.0 50 Mixed Courts 1-3.
24	25 8 AM - 6 PM Cal. St. Sr. - All courts	26 8 AM - 6 PM Cal. St. Sr. - All courts.	27 8 AM - 6 PM Cal. St. Sr. - All courts.	28 8 AM - 6 PM Cal. St. Sr. - All courts.	29 8 AM - 6 PM Cal. St. Sr. - All courts.	30 8 AM - 6 PM Cal. St. Sr. - All courts.
31 8 AM - 6 PM Cal. St. Sr. - All courts.	1	2	3 6 PM - 8 PM 7.5 Combo Courts 1-3.	4	5	6
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat