

**August 2013**

## Editor's Message



*Jeff Tateosian*

First off, I would like to apologize for the delay in getting the Drop Shot out this month. With some of the changes taking place, I felt it was more important for information to be accurate than timely.

The old saying is that change is inevitable and usually for the best. Change continuously occurs in my business, as it no doubt does with your business, your favorite retail & services businesses, your local sports teams, and yes, even our little tennis club. High profile changes of tennis pros at clubs are not uncommon every four to five years according to those in the business. Riaz is a friend of mine and had a great run over the past 13 years. He was hired by the club the year I joined and took over what was a "flat" tennis program, and developed it into a fun, active program. I wish him the very best on his next adventure and know he will be able to branch out and develop a bigger and better academy for kids beyond the confines of our club.

We now must focus on repairing the friendships that have been strained and getting membership to come together to once again represent PTC as the "best kept secret on the Peninsula." Yes, change is inevitable, and it's time to move forward together.

*Jeff Tateosian*

## Upcoming Events

- **Calcutta Dinner Friday, Aug 16th**
- **Men's Calcutta Saturday, Aug 17th**
- **Women's Calcutta Sunday, Aug 18th**
- **Inter Club Match  
San Carlos Tennis Club  
Sunday, September 8th**
- 

## Message from Erik van Dillen

Dear Club Members,  
I have been a member of the PTC for as long as I can remember. I grew up at the club playing tennis, and have watched the club evolve over the years, ...since I was too young to walk. I am saddened to see the PTC "spirit" at an all-time low. Many of you know, I like Riaz and thought he was good for the club. However, after many meetings and much reflection, I think it is best for the club that we all move on. In so doing I hope we can find the better inner club we have always been; vibrant, caring, stewards of the game, and full of fun.

It will take a lot of hard work, patience, and understanding to get back to where we were, but I am confident that we can. I offer my commitment to be a partner in the healing process and welcome any of you who choose to join me.

*Erik van Dillen*

## Director of Tennis News

### Message from Riaz Shivji

Dear PTC Membership:

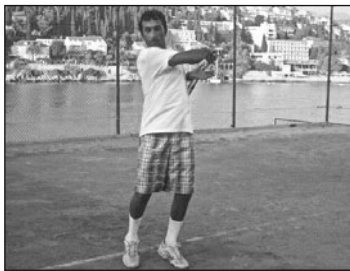
I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the PTC members for allowing me to be its head tennis director for the past 13 years. I consider it an honor and a privilege to have been able to teach so many of you and your children over the years and see them grow up to be such responsible caring young adults, all with a love for the game.

As many of you know, I have a passion for teaching and for the mechanics and strategy of the game, but an even greater passion for teaching life lessons through the sport we all love so much. I will miss doing that with you very much.

The PTC is a special place and more than a tennis club. It is a place to get away from it all, be with great friends and share in the love of tennis. My hope is that you all can come together again and remember what makes the PTC better than other local clubs, we know it's about the people. I look forward to hearing of the continued success of PTC and seeing many of you in the world of tennis that we love so much.

Please know I will take the many positive experiences I have had at the club forward in my tennis journey as they have helped shape my core values and beliefs.

### *Riaz Shivji*



## President's Message



*Phil Zlatunich*

Dear Members,  
The PTC Board of Directors would like to thank **Riaz** for his service to the club over the past many years and we want to wish him well in the future. It was not an easy process and we hope that we can all look to the

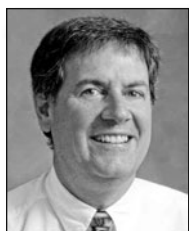
future and focus on building a positive and robust tennis experience for all. We thank the members for their patience and hope we can all move forward in a positive direction.

We are planning to begin the process of developing our new tennis program. We intend to work with a member-led group to lead the search process for our next pro or pros. It will be made up of members who represent various levels of play for both Adults and Juniors. We seek to develop a fairly priced program that offers clinics and lessons to members of all levels. This will absolutely include a solid Junior program, which has been a long-standing tradition at PTC. We also hope we can reinvigorate our Junior Membership program which has waned over the years. Any and all input is welcome and we look forward to putting the new program in place. While the committee will be formed soon, we also want to ensure we create the necessary framework for the new position/s, as well as taking the time to find the right person or persons. Please be patient as we go through this process.

We all look forward to the next chapter at PTC. Feel free to contact any Board member directly or email the entire Board by sending your messages to **Lona**. We will keep you informed of the plans and progress of hiring our next tennis pro and developing our tennis program.

# The Drop Shot ~ Official Newsletter of the Peninsula Tennis Club

## Editor's Note



**Jeff Tateosian**

**Speaking of change, the Drop Shot** is planning on going through various changes within the next few months. Though we have continued to receive positive comments about the Drop Shot over the past eight years, we need to do better job in getting the club's "message" to all members. July's Drop Shot was opened by 61% of all membership emails. Though that's about average, what about the other 39%? We can explain 20% (+/-) off as spouses of members who don't participate at the club, older members who aren't as active, etc. Twice at the July membership meeting, members said they hadn't heard a particular event happening at the club, and the response was "it was in the Drop Shot, did you read it?"

**Dennis Mayer**, our webmasterblaster, says that our blasting application can not only tell us how many members open the emails, but also, who does and who doesn't. I will be reaching out to the members who regularly do not open the monthly Drop Shot emails to find out why and what we can offer to spark their interest. Likewise, I will be contacting members who do read the newsletter, looking for ways to improve it and how to better deliver the PTC message. We have a few ideas in the pipeline, but want to hear from you and with your suggestions. Thank you for your discussion in advance, and above all else, thanks for reading.

**John Stone** will once again reprise his role as Calcutta emcee for our annual party on Friday evening. Player spouses and non-players alike are invited to what many call, "the best evening event at the club." Additional info is presented in the newsletter. Please try to attend.

**Congratulations to Matt & Yana Maloney, Steve Brooks and Ben Chew** for winning the first annual PTC Bocce Ball Tournament held a couple of weeks ago. The new Bocce Ball courts at Washington Park were the perfect setting,

complete with a delicious barbeque lunch by Chef **Earl Gustafson**. Though only a few had played before, it was an easy game to pick up. Another Bocce event will be planned soon - stay tuned.

**Congratulations to Betty Cookson**, who had a nice article written about her in the July/August edition of Inside Tennis. At age 91, she says the draws in the National Championships are slim, but optimistic that next year's group might be a bit bigger (yes, a couple younger players are turning 90). She and her late husband have meant a great deal to USTA tennis. **Bob Cookson**, a former President of the USTA, played a key role in the modernization of the American game. Like some of our other well-known members, Betty's accomplishments will always be in the forefront of PTC.

**Congratulations to veteran member Dennis Huajardo** for winning his "first match in months." Asked if it was a default, he looked at me and said with a straight face, that he "earned this one."

## Manager's Corner



**Lona Means**

**Lifeguards will be on duty** daily from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm through August 13th and weekends only through the end of August.

### *Reminders:*

- Tennis courts are porous so only water is permitted on the courts.
- Please lower umbrellas in the evening prior to leaving.
- Close all doors if you are last out.
- Store pool toys, straighten chairs, and throw away trash.
- Children under seven are not permitted in the spa at any time.

*Happy Tennis*

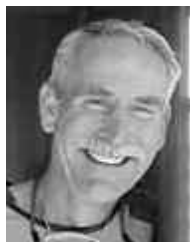
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## Club News

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

<b>Steve Livingston/Terry Sprague</b>	<b>15 Years</b>
<b>Chris &amp; Molly Dillen</b>	<b>10 Years</b>
<b>Conrad Mezzetta</b>	<b>10 Years</b>
<b>Ken &amp; Kerry Mahrer</b>	<b>5 Years</b>

## Tennis Activities News



*Ken March*

**Looking back on the first part of the year**, we have had some great tennis events – two Team Tennis Tournaments, Inter Clubs, Woods-n-Whites, Men's and Women's tennis ladder and the van Dillen Doubles Championship.

**The Tennis Committee**, with great enthusiasm, is ready to finish off the year's tennis schedule with this month's Men's and Women's Calcutta on August 16-18. The sign-up sheet is in the Clubhouse for those of you who haven't already signed up. Men's play is on Saturday, August 17th and the Women will play on Sunday, August 18th. Can't play? Be sure to attend the dinner party Friday night for food, drink and great camaraderie with fellow members. This is THE can't-miss party of the year.

**Coming Sept 8th**, we have an away Inter Club with San Carlos Tennis Club. Interested in participating? Email me at [kvmarch81@att.net](mailto:kvmarch81@att.net).

**Our annual Men's Singles Championship** will begin the weekend of September 28-29th. **Tom Middlemass** will once again be leading the event. The sign-up sheet will be in the Clubhouse next week, so tune up your game and jump right in.

**Lastly, are you interested** in playing on a USTA team this fall? Contact one of the captains for more information:

- Combo  
6.5 Women's Combo – *Whitney Murphy*  
7.5 Women's Combo – *Kay Coskey*

- Mixed over 40  
6.0 – *Marsha Heimbecker*  
7.0 – *Jerry Ceglia*  
8.0 – *Christian Reilly*  
9.0 – *Mindy Wong*

## House & Grounds News



*Phil Zlatunich*

**I would like to give a shout out** to two club members who continue to devote their time and energies into making the PTC a more enjoyable experience for our membership. First, **Anthony (Tennis Station) Paz** who provided all the wood rackets with new grips and in some cases new strings for the fantastic Wood and Whites, THE event of the year. In addition, Anthony also continues to donate new tennis balls on a monthly basis for the recently purchased ball machine. The second shout out goes to **Stuart Batchelor** for training our volunteer staff on the proper operation and maintenance of our newly acquired Kegerator. So, let the beer flow and THANK YOU both for your outstanding dedication. Please give them a high five for a job well done when you see them around the club.

Current List of H&G projects:

- Flooring replacement (Women's Locker rooms) August start- (1) week duration.
- Flooring replacement (Junior Locker rooms).
- Video Cam Upgrade – Cost analysis / feasibility study in progress.
- Club House / Court Sound System – Committee equipment selection / budgeting.
- Lights – Review previous Board progress, – Feasibility / Development Phase.
- Furniture Replacement – ADC Review / Fiscal Budgeting for 2014-15.
- Club House Library bookshelves / ACD Club House Development / PC Review.
- Card Key entry / Security System – Board Review – Pricing / Scheduling.

## Membership News



*Jane Pearcy*

Membership would like to welcome **James O'Brien, Melissa Larmogoux** and their three children. James honed his tennis skills on the hardscrabble public courts of Alexandria, VA where he was raised. Melissa learned the game at San Jose Country Club in Jacksonville, FL, her hometown. Before Melissa and James settled into family life, they lived in London, England. They enjoyed playing both doubles and singles matches with friends and colleagues. They are excited to be joining the PTC and look forward to pick-up matches, tennis clinics, and relaxing by the pool. **Finn** (age 8), **Maeve** (age 6), and **Bridget** (age 3) are looking forward to tennis and swimming.

**David Jones, Delyn Simons** and their children **Blythe** (age 8) and **Duncan** (age 5) have also joined the PTC fold. David is a Brit who has lived in the US for 16 years. He has recently learned that his squash experience from University does not help on the tennis court. When Andy Murray won Wimbledon, he and his brother (back in the England) did a victory dance together on Skype. Delyn played field hockey at the University of Pennsylvania, and made it to the NCAA Final Eight. However, field hockey and tennis are two different animals and Delyn is worried that her 8 year old daughter already has a better backhand than she does. Delyn and David are both looking forward to getting back into tennis after a long break.

Welcome back **Ken & Teresa Post**. They were 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. They have some great stories to tell and are looking forward to catching up with old friends. You'll also notice that their sons **Spencer & Jackson** have aged well during their overseas stay.

## Social Events News



*Jennifer Ellison*

We would like to give a huge shout out to **Yana Maloney** and team for hosting a fantastic Hawaiian Luau for our July Twilight Tennis. They transformed the club into a tropical island, complete with orchids, leis and grass skirts. Our amazing chefs, **Jeff Tsu** and **Mickey Podolsky**, cooked over 100lbs of meat! Hawaiian style ribs were washed down with Mai Tais while DJ Jeff spun some island-inspired tunes. Lots of tennis was played with court assignments efficiently managed by **Jeff Schubiner, Jim Sobel** and **Rob Adams**. It was the most attended mid-summer Twilight on the books and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves as there was a large crowd left hanging around the keg at the end of the evening. Yana pulled together a fantastic "luau" committee, which included **Beth Beisecker, Andrea More, Tami Dewitt, Mary Eliason, Kathleen Egan, Barbara Trainor, Joann Mahaffey and Elizabeth Pratt**. Thanks to all of you for putting on such a fantastic event!

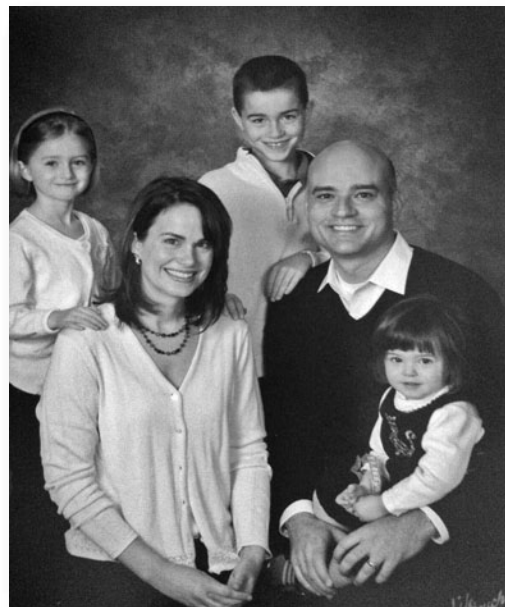
**Next up is the annual Calcutta dinner** on Friday, August 16th. Players and non-players are welcome and I highly encourage everyone to attend. This is one of the most fun events at the club each year. We will have a casual dinner and plenty to drink. Once everyone's stomachs have been satisfied, we will have the team draws followed by the team betting. Stop at the ATM - as you don't want to miss your chance to bet on your favorite team. Sign up in the Clubhouse or by emailing **Lona**.

**Finally, I want to give a huge thank you to Lona and Jose** for all the help they provide at our social events. Jose is always eager to help pull out the big tables, haul stuff in and out of the club, climb ladders to hang decorations....you name it. He is happy to help and always does so with a smile on his face. Lona is indispensable, making sure we never run out of beer and wine, checking on supplies, coordinat-

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ing kitchen help, and so much more. They work quietly behind the scenes most of the time and I just want to recognize how much they do to ensure we have smooth-running social events. *Thank you.*

## NEW MEMBERS



*James O'Brien, Melissa Larmogoux  
Maeve, Finn, & Bridget*



*Twilight Tennis "luau" Committee*



*David Jones & Delyn Simons  
Duncan & Blythe*



*PTC Bocce Ball Tournament*



*Ken & Teresa Post  
Spencer & Jackson*

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Peninsula Tennis Club ~ Court Calendar		Aug 2013 (Pacific Time)					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	
		6 pm - Mixed 7.0	6 pm - Mixed 8.0			3 pm - Womens 7.0	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1 pm - Mixed 6.0	Court 4-7	Courts 4-7	Courts 4-7 6 pm - Womens 7.0	Courts 4-7	Courts 4-7	Courts 4-7 3 pm - Women's 8.0	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Courts Resurfacing 1 pm - Mixed 8.0	Courts 4-7	Courts Resurfacing 6 pm - Mixed 7.0	Courts Resurfacing 6 pm - Women's 8.0	6 pm - Mixed 6.0	Calcutta Dinner &	8:30am - Men's	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
8:30am - Women's 4 pm - Men's 8.0			6 pm - Mixed 6.0			3 pm - Women's 7.0	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
3 pm - Mixed 6.0							