



# Center Court

AUGUST 2008

## 2008 Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open Champions

The annual Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open Championships concluded Sunday, August 3rd with Eric Rubens defeating Miguel Garcia 6-7, 6-0, 6-0 in the Men's final and Arianna Colffer defeating Anna Yang in the Women's final. Good weather for both weekends of the tournament allowed for a well-run event thanks to Tournament Director Geoff Griffin, Tournament Coordinator Carole Bunker and the wonderful staff of volunteers.

See page 7 for complete results.



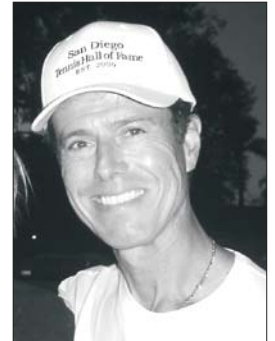
Women's winner Arianna Colffer and finalist Anna Yang with Tournament Director Geoff Griffin.

Mens champion Eric Rubens (right) with finalist Miguel Garcia (left) with BTC member and umpire Tony Perez.



## Tennis Hall of Fame Inducting New Class

The San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame will proudly honor five individuals who have left an indelible mark in San Diego's rich and abundant tennis history on Saturday, August 23 at 4:00 p.m. The ceremony will be held on the Maureen Connolly Stadium



Larry Belinsky.

Court with the awards presentation open to everyone. A casual barbeque buffet reception will follow on the grass adjacent to the Reservations Desk. The cost is \$15 per person and space is limited. Go to [www.sddta@yahoo.com](http://www.sddta@yahoo.com), call 619-299-8647 or pay at the District office. Larry Belinsky, Hall of Fame Chairman and Master of Ceremonies, has announced the class of 2008 and their accomplishments:

**Franklin Johnson** – Junior standout, College great, Community service

**William J. "Bill" Kellogg** – Community Service

**Jean Kremm** – Community Service

**James "Jim" Perley** – Senior Success

**Brian Teacher** – World Class, Junior Stand-out, College Great

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## Welcome Tournament Desk Coordinator Carole Bunker

Last year Carole Bunker accepted the position of Tournament Desk Coordinator at Balboa Tennis Club. She replaced Fran Wakefield who put in over 20 great years as "Coordinator Extraordinaire!" With big shoes to fill and little experience as the coordinator, Bunker has embraced this important role and has been very effective. The club is thankful to Carole and all the volunteers as the tournaments are running efficient and seamless.

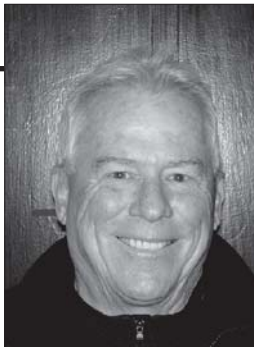


See Carol Bunker continued on page 6

## The President's Court Chatter

by Dwight Van Slyke

I would like to update everyone on the projects we've have been working on to improve the Balboa Tennis Club.



**Backboard** - Jerry Bischoff and I met with the San Diego Park and Recreation Department and they have approved us moving forward with the building of a new backboard. They are making a few suggestions and recommendations to our plan. Budget of \$80,000

**Lower Court Lighting** - Lighting for the six lower courts will cost \$92,000.

**Fencing** - Park and Rec. has given us a verbal approval to install fencing around the club so that it can be locked up. Cost \$39,800.

NOTE: It is imperative that our members make contributions to these projects. This makes it a lot easier for outside sources to provide the balance of the funding.

If you or anyone that you know would like to get involved with these projects, either donating money or time (tax deductible), please contact me at [dwight@anewkitchen.com](mailto:dwight@anewkitchen.com) or 619-933-4660.

On a lighter note I wanted to share a conversation that I had with Geoff Griffin the other day. He approached me to talk about the clay courts, stating how much he loved playing on clay, but never could win on it. It was only then that I realized just how much Geoff and Roger have in common.



## Court Reservation Policy Review

Making a court reservation is a privilege that comes with adult and senior memberships at Balboa Tennis Club. It has come to the attention of the club director and the board of directors that some individuals are abusing this privilege. Members are able to make reservations a week in advance and must cancel their reservation if their plans change. When members do not cancel existing reservations as soon as they know their plans have changed, they impact the ability of other members to make a reservation. Many people try to make a reservation and are told the courts are full. Therefore they don't come to the courts and courts sit empty or are given out to someone that has just shown up with no reservation. Please be considerate of other members. Don't make a reservation unless you have a game. Cancel your reservation if something comes up to change your plans as soon as you know. We hope that members will be considerate of others voluntarily and that no further action, such as fines or loss of privileges, will have to be taken. Thank you for your support and cooperation.



2221 Morley Field Drive  
San Diego, Calif. 92104  
295-9278

[www.balboatennis.com](http://www.balboatennis.com)

*President*

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Colleen Clery Ferrell

*Tennis Director*

Geoff Griffin

Board meetings are at 7 p.m. every third Tuesday of the month in the BTC Clubhouse. All members are welcome.

The BTC Main Office is open Monday through Friday.

The reservations desk is open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

The club is closed on New Years Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Reservations & Info... 295-9278

Director's Office..... 295-4242

Pro Shop..... 291-5248

Tennis Café ..... 299-8787

Submissions to the newsletter are welcome.  
Call 295-4242

# The Director's Report

by Colleen Clery Ferrell

I hope all of you are enjoying summer in San Diego. Despite occasional days of elevated humidity, our city is a wonderful place to play tennis. Make sure you drink plenty of fluids while playing, especially if you're competing in one of the tournaments. Our tournament season is in high gear through September, so if you're planning on getting competitive this year, now is the time to sign up.

After the San Diego Metropolitan Tournament concludes, courts 13-16 and the stadium will be resurfaced. This process should take a week, so plan accordingly if you're accustomed to playing on those courts. Also, the City of San Diego is bringing BTC up to ADA code. Every area of the club will be affected by this project which the city is paying for entirely. We will pay for the inconvenience. I will keep all of you updated via the club e-mail. If you would like to receive club information and aren't on my list, sign up at the Reservations Desk or e-mail your address to [director@balboatennis.com](mailto:director@balboatennis.com).

Just a few more tidbits to keep all of you informed. Ron Seno is researching a possible BTC club trip to the big island in his native land of Hawaii. More details will follow as Ron plans this outing. Also, there are still club directories available at the Reservations Desk for those of you who haven't picked one up. Please take time to fill out the survey in this newsletter and let your opinions be heard. There are several projects in the works at the club and the board needs to know which ones the members truly value.



## Membership Dues Increase Information

Effective January 1, 2009, the dues at Balboa Tennis Club will be increased as follows:

**Adult New:** from \$155 to \$200 (18-64 years old)

**Adult Renewal:** from \$135 to \$175 (18-64 years old)

**Senior New:** from \$105 to \$135 (65 and older)

**Senior Renewal:** from \$85 to \$120 (65 and older)

**Four - Month Membership:** will remain at \$75 (Any Age)

**Junior Team Memberships:** \$25 (High School) This membership allows a member of a school team to work out with their team and coach during their tennis season. They may not play any other times without paying a day pass fee and may not make reservations.

**New Junior Membership \$90 (Proposed)** - Benefits: Junior members may make a reservation for court time a week in advance for the hours of 12pm to 4pm and use the clubhouse facilities. Age: Up to 17 years old (Adult memberships start at 18 years old)

As a public, non-profit tennis facility, the Balboa Tennis Club is dealing with increased costs like every other business and family. Continuing escalation of club expenses and wages necessitates a dues increase. Relatively low fees at Balboa are part of the reason we have such a diverse membership. Overall, with the increase, BTC Members will be paying less than \$17 a month to play tennis 365 days a year. The board believes this moderate increase will strike a balance between the need to keep the dues affordable, while insuring this tennis facility will be well run and kept in excellent condition.



## 63rd San Diego Metropolitan Concludes Tournament Season

The final tournament of the BTC summer schedule runs September 19-21 and 26-28. Signups can be taken online through Sunday September 7 at [www.usta.com](http://www.usta.com), by entering the tournament #651863308.

Make sure to enter the San Diego Metro to put the final touch on your 2008 ranking. Chaz Griffin is the Tournament Director. Welcome Chaz back to the club by supporting his tournament. The cost is \$30 for singles and \$36 per doubles team.



# Run and Roll Tournament Recap

by MA Hillier

The 2nd annual Run and Roll tournament was held at Balboa Tennis Club on July 19, 2008. Thirty six players participated (18 wheelchair players and 18 ambulatory players) in doubles matches against players of the same ability. The tournament included three divisions (beginner, intermediate, and advanced) and two pools in each division. Each team played three other teams in their pool and the team with the most points advanced to play the



2007 Run and Roll participants.



Run and Roll champion Roberto Ancina (standing right) and runner-up Dave Buck (seated right).

winner of the other pool to determine winner and finalist of each division. This format gave all the players an opportunity to gain an appreciation for those individuals with a variety of abilities.

Following the playoffs in each division, there were three "Hit 4 Prizes" courts where all the players had an opportunity to earn prizes by hitting targets on the courts. Awards were presented to champions and finalists in each

division. BTC Member Roberto Ancira captured first place in the advanced division with Dave Buck from Silverado, CA. Both players will compete in Atlanta in a National Tournament, October 8-11. Overall, the tournament was a huge success.

To learn more about San Diego Adaptive Sports Foundation, or to volunteer to coach, call SDASF at (619) 336-1806 or go to [www.sdASF.org](http://www.sdASF.org).

## Senior Olympics at Balboa Sept. 8-10

The Senior Olympics Tennis Tournament will be held at BTC on September 8-10, from 12:00 5:00 p.m. Participants begin qualifying at age 50, with 5 year increments for each division. Events include singles, doubles and Mixed. The entry fee is \$25 with a \$5 per event fee. Entry forms are available online [www.seniorgames.org](http://www.seniorgames.org). If you have any questions, contact Barbara Gregorio at 619-239-8408

## Let's All Take Pride in BTC *by Pat O'Reiley*

Helping keep the club area neat and attractive is every member's responsibility. Walking away from your empty beverage container or reading materials creates unsightly litter that detracts from the club experience. Similarly, leaving debris in the lounge and locker rooms, when it can easily be put in the wastebaskets, diminishes the club atmosphere. Let's all do our part to enhance the appearance of this venue we're so fortunate to have in our community.

## E-Waste Event Recap

Balboa Tennis Club is grateful to Mike and Wanda Hernacki for organizing a successful E-Waste Event, which was held on Saturday, June 7 to benefit Chaz Griffin. 30,000 pounds of waste was collected and amounted to \$1095. Mike and Wanda presented the check to Chaz Griffin, who was very grateful. Chaz is feeling better and improving daily. Thanks to all the members who donated to the Chaz Griffin Recovery Fund and helped out at the E-Waste Event, during his time of need.

# Tennis Tip by Mike Rogers, USPTA



*\*Mike Rogers has organized a WTT Men's Tennis Workout for advanced levels, 4.0-4.5, every Tuesday 6:00-7:30 p.m. The workout features fast paced tennis drills for league season tune up, doubles strategy, modern stroke production and fitness.*

Your head dictates where the ball goes. Lots of times you hit the ball long and can't figure out why. It's not the racquet, the strings or the new tennis outfit. The problem is your racquet face is too open and simply lifts up the ball too high, usually sending it out or in to the net.

A simple correction is to keep your head fixed and watch the blur of the ball coming off your strings. By doing that, the racquet face stays vertical longer through the hitting zone. Many players look up too soon and the racquet face

opens, sending the ball long. The player is anxious to look where the ball lands and this effects where the ball hits in the court.

By watching the pros, you can learn a lot. Notice that the pro's head is down even at the finish of the swing. Wait until you get back to your ready position to see where the ball landed. Top players, like Nadal, Federer and Serena Williams all keep their head down during the swing.

Your head is the second heaviest part of your anatomy; it dictates where the ball will go.

## Become a Voice for the Club – Join the Board

Petitions will be available at the Reservations Desk and online at:

[www.balboatennis.com](http://www.balboatennis.com) beginning September 1, 2008. Board members serve a two year term. Anyone interested in joining the board needs to collect 40 signatures from BTC Members recommending him or her for the board. Petitions must be completed and returned to the Reservation Desk by October 15. If there are more than five applicants, an election will be held. The new term begins January 1, 2009. Board meetings are held every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.



## Tell Us What You Think!!!

The Board of Directors wants your comments on the following areas of interest:

1. Fencing around the entire club for security, safety and to cut down on vandalism (\$39,000).
2. Building a new backboard (\$80,000)
3. Lights on the lower six courts (\$92,000)
4. Blue Surface like the US Open for the stadium court (no extra cost)

You can help us prioritize these issues by placing a number from 1 to 4 with one being top priority. Include your name and use the following form and drop it off at the Reservation Desk, or E-mail your opinions to [director@balboatennis.com](mailto:director@balboatennis.com). We are proud of our facility and we understand that our membership is by far the most important asset of the club. Your opinions are valued and will be heard by the Balboa Tennis Club Board of Directors.

✂

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Fencing                       Backboard

Lights on Lower Courts       Blue Surface on Stadium Court

Other comments concerning Club issues. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Player on the Move: Tory Palecek

*Background: Former Volleyball Standout at Colgate University in New York Played Division 1 NCAA. High school career played at Francis Parker*

Tory Palecek is a great example of skill transfer in the game of tennis. Her overhead and serve in tennis parallel the overhead and serve she excelled with in college and high school volleyball. She anticipates like a cat and takes pride in thriving on the pressure of big points! She's on her way to success in tennis!

Palecek, daughter of former BTC President Robin Rodger, began taking clinics a few times a week. After developing basic skills in a very short period of time, Tennis Director Geoff Griffin recommended league



play. Her 3.0 team is now on its way to Sectionals at Los Caballeros Tennis Club in Los Angeles.

Palecek missed the thrill of competition after collegiate volleyball. "I like to play under pressure," she says. "Tennis is more of a mental challenge now especially since I don't have a team to rely on."

As for life at Balboa Tennis Club, Palecek enjoys the public aspect of the club with so many different types of people. By participating in clinics, she has met

several players who have welcomed and encouraged her tennis development. As for long term goals, additional tournament challenges are on the radar and one lofty goal, "I want to get as good as my Mom."

## Carole Bunker Continued from page 1

In 2008, BTC made the transition to utilize a newly purchased laptop and large monitor, along with the USTA recommended TDM software at all tournaments. This efficient system checks in players, reports scores and keeps track of court usage. Someone at the desk needs to work the computer, in addition to the Tournament Director, the Referee and Carole Bunker. The group of volunteers whom Bunker directs have become efficient and knowledgeable. No more paper trails for the Tournament Desk; the computer world is here to stay.

This computerized setup has given the BTC Tournaments new life — something Bunker is very familiar with in a personal way. In May of 2007, a girlfriend donated a kidney to Bunker and gave her the gift of life. Aside from medication, she lives a normal life, playing tennis 5 times a week and enjoying each precious day of good health. As a retired school teacher, Bunker is enjoying her position as Tournament Desk Coordinator and her active lifestyle. "I'm just happy to give back to the club and the game," she says.

If you are interested in volunteering to help at the tournament desk, please contact Carole Bunker at 619-286-9210 or [cbunker1@cox.net](mailto:cbunker1@cox.net).

## Leave a Tennis Legacy for BTC

Leave a wonderful tennis legacy in your name that will significantly help carry forward the BTC tradition of service to the tennis community. You can arrange a bequest in your will or trust. You could also make BTC the beneficiary of an insurance policy, an IRA or a bank account. It's easy to do. For additional information, call the club Director, Colleen Ferrell at 619-295-4242.

## Support Balboa Tennis Club Vendors

Balboa Tennis Club has two viable vendors who pay rent to the club and count on your business. Geoff Griffin runs the tennis program and Alireza Nejatfard operates the Tennis Café. Geoff and his staff are the only approved professionals to provide instruction and stringing for Balboa Tennis Club. Al and his staff are the designated food vendors. The Board of Directors urges all of you to respect this wish and utilize our designated club vendors. We want our vendors to be successful and stay committed to BTC during these rough economic times. Thank you for your support.





# 2008 Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open Results



## Men's Open Singles

Eric Rubens def. Miguel Garcia  
6-7, 6-0, 6-0

## Women's Open Singles

Arianna Colffer def. Anna Yang  
6-2, 6-3

## Men's Open Doubles

Paradowski/Tontz def. Chang/Jones  
5-7, 7-5, 6-4

## Mixed Open Doubles

Acuna/Yang def. Chang/Ruman Wo/  
(inj.)

## Men's 40 Singles

Manuel Ortiz def. Shawn Roybal  
5-7, 6-2, 6-4

## Men's 45 Singles

Alexander Magtanong def. Roger  
Siordia 7-5, 7-5

## Men's 50 Singles

Lawrence Belinsky def. Kip  
Hutchison 6-1, 6-7, 6-3

## Men's 55 Singles

Shawn Schraeger def. Tony Ybarra  
6-7, 7-5, 7-5

## Men's 60 Singles

James Upton def. Danny Dabby  
7-6, 6-3

## Men's 65 Singles

Lester Vessell def. Joseph Zesbaugh  
Wo (emerg)

## Men's 70 Singles

Jerry Headley def. Mike Carrico  
6-3, 6-4

## Men's 75 Singles

Donald Albares def. John McCaull  
6-3, 7-5

## Men's 85 Singles

William Gross def. Beong Paik  
6-3, 3-6, 7-6

## Women's 50 Singles

Nancy Abler-Sanchez def. Susan  
Davis 6-3, 6-2

## Women's 55 Singles

Patricia McNamara def. Paulette  
Macintosh 6-1, 2-6, 7-5

## Men's 45 Doubles

Simmons/Siordia def. Dawson/Meyer  
7-5, 7-5

## Men's 55 Doubles

Jackson/Knight def.  
Aalam/Thompson 6-4, 6-2

## Men's 60 Doubles

Hasper/Seno def. Glass/Kelly  
6-4, 6-4

## Women's 35 Doubles

Ainslie Murray/Clery Ferrell def.  
Carnaje/Sweet 6-4, 3-6, 6-2

## Mixed 40 Doubles

Leong/Ray def.  
Schmersal/Thompson WO (tae)

## Father-Son Doubles

Miller/Miller def. Esparza/Esparza  
7-6, 6-3

## NTRP Men's 3.0 Singles

Chad Rothbart def. Giordano Sagrati  
6-1, 6-0

## NTRP Men's 3.5 Singles

Shawn Murphy def. Cyrus Azares  
6-2, 3-6, 6-3

## NTRP Women's 4.5 Singles

Janet Solorzano def. Bethann Barry  
6-2, 4-6, 6-2

## NTRP Men's 3.5 Doubles

Evan/Moreno def. Somers/Wong  
6-3, 7-5

## NTRP Men's 4.5 Doubles

Mallery/Sabio def. Byrne/Upton  
6-2, 6-3

## NTRP Men's 5.5 Doubles

Acuna/Vo def. Le/Pham  
6-2, 4-6, 6-2



*Tournament Desk volunteers included Carole Bunker (new Tournament Desk  
chairman), Fran Wakefield (retiring Tournament Desk Chairman, and Pat Mason.*

## NTRP Men's 4.0 Singles

Ken Kasitz def. Michael Shadoan  
6-4, 6-3

## NTRP Men's 4.5 Singles

Kyle Stewart def. Michael Donahue  
6-1, 6-2

## NTRP Men's 5.0 Singles

Jeffrey Worthington def. Robert  
Randolph 6-1, 6-1

## NTRP Men's 5.5 Singles

Joseph Glynn def. David Soucek  
4-6, 6-3, 6-0

## NTRP Women's 3.5 Singles

Melanie macrae def. Jill Wester  
7-5, 6-2

## NTRP Women's 4.0 Singles

Kathryn Lockwood def. Jennifer  
Bergovoy 6-1, 6-3

## NTRP Women's 3.5 Doubles

Christopher/Turbyfill def. Orara/Zarbo  
6-2, 7-5

## NTRP Women's 4.5 Doubles

Slome/Solloa-Hegewisch def.  
Lukomski/Nguyen 6-4, 6-2

## NTRP Women's 5.5 Doubles

Jones/Clery Ferrell def.  
Carnaje/Sweet 6-0, 6-0

## NTRP Mixed 3.5 Doubles

Felder/Taylor def. King/Hannan  
6-2, 6-3

## NTRP 4.5 Doubles

Kuba/Le def. Jung/Sabio  
3-6, 6-3, 6-2

## NTRP Mixed 5.5 Doubles

Abe/Ford def. Leong/Miyazaki  
6-4, 7-5

# Calendar of Events

## August

16	Free Tennis Clinic 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
19	BTC Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
22-24, 30-Sept 1	80th Annual San Diego District Championships
23	Hall of Fame Ceremony and Dinner 4:00 p.m.

## September

8-11	Senior Olympics
13	Back to School Social - 3:00 p..m. Tennis/5:00 p.m. Food
16	BTC Board Meeting
19-21, 26-28	63rd Annual San Diego Metropolitan Championships

## October

18	Free Tennis Clinic 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
21	BTC Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

## November

15	Turkey Shoot social - 3:00 p.m. Tennis/5:00 p.m. food
18	BTC Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.



# Center Court

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Dated material

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