



Center Court

MAY 2008

E-Waste Fundraiser for Chaz Griffin set for June 7

On Saturday, June 7, from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Balboa Tennis Club will be sponsoring an E-Waste Recycling Event with the proceeds benefitting the Chaz Griffin Recovery Fund. E-Waste encompasses most of the electronics that have become part of everyday life like: computers, monitors, cell phones, televisions, stereos, printers, laptops, fax machines, scanners, microwaves etc. As of 2005, it is illegal to put these items in the landfills. They must be recycled. Each part will be recycled. Nothing goes in the trash. All hard drive information is physically destroyed providing the optimum method of data destruction.

Please mark this day on your calendar. Look for items in

Continued page 7

Update on Chaz Griffin



Chaz Griffin, one of our tennis professionals, was stricken by Guillain-Barre Syndrome causing temporary paralysis. He is now home recovering and going through intense physical therapy.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Chaz Griffin Recovery Fund, please go to our website at www.balboatennis.com.

To Our Extended Family,

Chaz has been home for several weeks and has made remarkable progress. He is not however, out of the woods, and we think that it might be another 2 or 3 months before he is back to normal, and hopefully with all parts functioning. He is walking with a stick and getting around reasonably well. He is eating much better, but not allowed to drive. He is aggressive in his attitude and desire to do things himself. He wants to relieve us of burdens and do things himself, which is fine as long as he doesn't have a relapse.

We have an excellent fitness area in our building, and he will continue his re-hab there 3 times a week. He is very familiar with all the equipment and feels that he will set up his own program. He is highly motivated. By no means has he recovered; there is however, a tremendous difference since he went into re-hab and we have to thank Lisa and Kei (club members) and the staff at Sharp for their efforts.

Chaz also made a big contribution. Being home with family and friends is of course a tonic, and the support of many club members, and others of the extended family has been an inspiration to him. He is highly motivated to get himself back to normal and your efforts on his behalf are recognized, and appreciated by all of us.

The Griffin Family

inside...

Articles

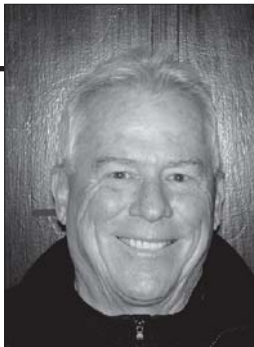
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The President's Court Chatter

by Dwight Van Slyke



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

Soft Courts We have initial commitments of \$85,000 to install Har-Tru courts over some of our existing hard courts. We could start with two soft courts on 11 & 12 or 17 & 18 or the lower courts (especially if we get lights for them) or two other courts. This issue will need to be voted on by the members once we have put together a formal proposal.

Backboard - Club member Jerry Bischoff has been generous enough to provide us with new architectural drawings for our backboard. We are currently soliciting bids for the concrete work, lighting and the building of the wall. When we have all the necessary estimates, we will submit the information to Park & Rec. for approval.

Lower Court Lighting - We will have the costs and designs for lighting on the lower courts in the next week or so and again will be submitting a proposal to Park & Rec. When we have the proposals for the Backboard & Lower Court Lighting approved by the Park & Rec., we will raise the money (\$200,000 to \$400,000). With the help of long time member Patrick O'Reiley, we will be talking with foundations, contacting private parties and of course our members and the people they know.

Fencing - We are checking into fencing around the entire club so we can lock it up at night. This would allow us to have satellite TV, wireless computers, a safer environment and minimize vandalism. Estimated cost is \$80,250.

Pro Shop Roof and Expansion - The Pro Shop needs a new roof. We would like to enclose the Pro Shop patio so they could expand their business. Estimated cost is \$45,000.

If you know of any contacts or contributors who would like to get involved with these projects, either donating money or time, please contact me at dwight@anewkitchen.com I will keep you updated on developments.

Car Vandalism Report

In the past year, several cars in the BTC parking lot have been targets of the phrase, "smash and grab." The thieves work very quickly as they have a device which shatters the window and then they grab whatever they want within seconds. The Park Rangers and San Diego Police have increased surveillance in the BTC parking lot to help deter this wave of vandalism. The members need to make sure that all valuables are kept out of sight when leaving the car. If you happen to see any suspicious activity while coming or going to the club, please call the Reservations Office immediately.



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

www.balboatennis.com

President

Dwight Van Slyke

Vice President

Richard Barndt

Treasurer

John Rodriguez

Secretary

Don Goyette

Board Members

Peter Conneely

Roxanne Drees

Barbara Gregorio

Ruth Nutt

Robin Rodger

Linda Stadelli

Director

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

Welcome New Board Members

Peter Conneely and Roxanne Drees

Peter Conneely and Roxanne Drees have joined the Balboa Tennis Club Board of Directors effective April 15, 2008. Peter is a former board member who currently is employed at the Cave Store above the La Jolla Cove. In his words, "Restoration of a San Diego



Landmark takes up the better part of my day. One of the greatest things about serving on the board again is the opportunity to continue the restoration and improvements at Balboa Tennis Club in Morley Field: a tennis landmark!"

Roxanne started playing tennis about three years ago at the clinics here at BTC. She takes private lessons, attends clinics and has played on league teams, which has helped her meet other players and make friends. She is a full time Corp. Staff Accountant with three sons. In her words, "I wanted to be on the board for several reasons. The main reason is that I'm truly impressed by how much the club does for the community, such as the afternoon free clinics for children, the adoption of families at Christmas, Tennis Fest and so much more. I know this is a great opportunity for me."



The Director's Report

by Colleen Clery Ferrell

Thank you to all the club members and friends of Chaz Griffin who were able to financially donate to his cause. The contributions and sense of caring exhibited by Balboa Tennis Club exceeded all expectations. The good news is that Chaz is on the road to recovery and we've helped him tremendously during his time of crisis. BTC is not only a great place to play tennis; it is a tight knit family in many ways.



Welcome to any new members who have just discovered the best place to play tennis in San Diego County. If you have any specific questions on how to get involved, please feel free to e-mail me at director@balboatennis.com or call me in my office at 619-295-4242. For those members interested in utilizing the clubhouse for meetings, please check with me concerning board approval and availability. Also, please make sure all players on your court are members. It's best to take care of guest fees prior to starting your match. The club appreciates your cooperation in these matters.

Congratulations to club members Virginia Glass and Lesley Waite, who both won significant awards at the 121st Annual Meeting of the Southern California Tennis Association. Virginia won the SCTA Lifetime Achievement Award and Lesley won the SCTA Media Service Award. This prestigious event was held at the UCLA John Wooden Center. Jane Brown Grimes, the current USTA President, was the guest speaker. According to Lesley, she complimented the SDDTA on all the great work being accomplished in the San Diego area by the District.

Lastly, we are approaching the hot summer months when it is necessary to fully hydrate prior to playing and during your matches. Rest assured, the entire staff has just been through a four hour, fully accredited CPR/AED Class. We are ready to help out if first aid becomes necessary. Nonetheless, the better prepared the members are, the fewer calls we'll be making to the paramedics. Please drink plenty of water prior to taking the court. Bring an electrolyte replacement if you sweat a lot. If you feel faint, stop and rest. The Reservations Desk has a complete first aid kit in case of bleeding. Please use common sense and play smart, in regards to your game and your health.

Tennis Fest 2008

by Geoff Griffin

Our 8th Annual Tennis Fest went off with a bang on Sunday the 5th of May. This year we had more volunteer pros than previous years. 75 pros placed throughout our 25 courts made the event better than ever. I believe we had over 900 people this year.

This year we worked hard to gather great stuff for our Goodie bags. Everyone received a can of balls from Dunlop, at least one t-shirt and about 10 to 15 other donated things. We gave out over 800 Goodie bags.

Thanks to generous underwriting from the San Diego District Tennis Association we were able to hire the incredibly talented Henry Elkins. Henry puts on a show perhaps best described as a cross between the Harlem Globetrotters and Harpo Marx. He was a juggling comedian and everyone loved his act.

Every year we honor a certain individual or individuals who give a great deal to local tennis. This years Ben Press Award went to Gretchen Majors. She is a local tennis legend, teacher and a class act. You can rarely find a local charity event in which she isn't involved.

Tennis Fest is one of San Diego's proudest tennis achievements. It is highly unlikely that any other city in the country has anything like it: A day of completely free tennis instruction from 75 of the county's most talented instructors.

Some of the marquee pros we had on hand were USPTA President Doug Bradley, former tennis great Marita Redondo, Ryan Redondo, Ed Collins, The Barnes Centers' top guy Steve Bickham and many



others. I would like to thank the hard working committee including Bill Rennie (Chair), Jeff Anderson, Monte Grout, Steve Bickham, Steve Kappas, Juan Villanueva, Tyrone Prather, Kalyan Chakravadhanula and Ben Press. We also had a great group of volunteers nice enough to come out on Sunday to work at the sign up desk and help lug everything around for us.

Lastly, I would like to thank our many sponsors who donated product and gift certificates. We take pride in our raffle and goodie bags. Our major sponsors were the

San Diego District Tennis Association, USPTA San Diego Division, The Balboa Tennis Club, Kashi, CH Court Tech, Active Network, Barnes Tennis Center, Vitamin Water, The La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club, Charles Hoskowitz of Keller Williams Realty, The



Countrywide Classic, Gensing Yoga, Soyjoy, A New Kitchen, The Sony Corporation, Gamma, Prince, Head/Penn, Wilson, Dunlop, Babolat, Volkl and Sunwest Sales. I would also like to thank everyone else who gave either time and or product to our event including: The Tennis Channel, Knight Distributing, Bullfrog, Beirsdorf, Inc., Function Drinks, Revv, Danger Baseball Cards, Avis/Budget Rental Cars, D Street Bar & Grill, Family Karate, The Tennis Exchange, San Diego Tennis Network, Racquet Bracket, Paisano Restaurant, Olympic Café and Marco's Canopies Inc.

Thanks to all of you who showed up on Sunday to enjoy our efforts. Our goal is to make next year's event even bigger and better than this year.



Business Directory

Jimmy Loucks

Realtor/Consultant
6297 Del Cerro Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92120
O 619-501-5900
C 619-252-2435

Jill Mollenhauer

Artist/Muralist
1275 Johnson Ave.
San Diego, CA 92103
619-743-4485
www.jillmollenhauer.com

Bruce B. Bielaski

The Bielaski Group
2365 Northside Dr. Suite #200
San Diego, CA 92108
Office - 619-294-3113
Fax 619-521-0100
Direct 619-252-1268
BruceB@prusd.com
www.BruceBB.com
Realtor DRE#01294322

Oliver Patrick Cleary

Attorney At Law
The Senator Building
105 West F Street, 4th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101-6036
Phone 619-231-8874
Fax 619-231-8875
opcleary@pacbell.net

Helna C. Correll

San Diego Site Pros, Inc.
Meeting & Event Planning
Hotel Site Selection & Group
Hotel Accommodations
10509 San Diego Mission Rd.
Suite R (PMB #8)
San Diego, CA 92108
Phone 619-584-4738/
619-284-1957
Fax 619-284-4490
Cell 619-347-7873
sales@SanDiegoSitePros.com
www.SanDiegoSitePros.com

High 5 Your Way To A Powerful Overhead

Are you tired of your opponents running down your overheads? Do you want to get more power on your overhead smash? If so, this tennis tip is for you. Most of the power from your overhead comes from your wrist snap. Many club players tend to guide their overhead into the open court instead of aggressively snapping their wrist upon impact. In order to get the proper wrist snap, imagine yourself reaching up to give someone a high five. Not just a gentle slap on their palm but an actual excited, Chargers just won the Super bowl, high five slap. This loose wrist and strong snap is the same wrist motion you need to add force to your overhead. Be sure to high 5 me the next time you see me at the club!

*Mimi is offering a special of \$15 off for the first private one hour lesson. This special is only available for new clients. The offer expires July 1, 2008. Mimi can be reached on her cell at 619-252-2434.

by Mimi Loucks,
BTC Professional
USPTA Certified



Barbara Gregorio Wins the Gold



BTC Board Member Barbara Gregorio competed in a 5 K St. Patrick's Day Fun Run at M.C.R.D. on Friday, March 14. She was the most senior participant in the group as a majority of the runners were young Marines. As General A. Salinas awarded the Gold Medals, he shook hands with Barbara and said, "God Bless You." Barbara said she participated in the race to get prizes for the school kids she teaches in tennis. "Anything for the kids," she said. Being Irish also provided motivation as her maiden name is Bryan. Congratulations Barbara on completing the run and getting "the Gold."

Balboa to Host USTA National Hard Court Open

The USTA only sanctions one National Hard Court Tournament each year and since 2001, that tournament has been held at Balboa Tennis Club. The best tennis of the year will be on display June 9-15 during the USTA National Hard Court Championships. Past winners have included players with world rankings as this event attracts top amateur, college and some touring pros from all over the nation. The winner of the men's and women's singles division receives a wild card entry into a USTA Professional Circuit Tournament. Prestigious gold, silver and bronze balls, along with prize money are awarded to all finalists. Every event has a consolation bracket so players are guaranteed at least two matches.

New Club Bulletin Board

As the members and guests enter the club, the walkway between the Pro Shop and Clubhouse now adorns a new bulletin board with current club information. Keep an eye out for upcoming events such as tournaments, socials and free clinics. If you haven't submitted your e-mail address to Reservations and you would like to hear about timely club events, please do so immediately or e-mail Colleen at director@balboatennis.com



Recycling Bins at BTC

Every court at BTC has a garbage can and a blue recycling bin. According to the 2008/2009 City of San Diego Recycling Guide, the following items should go inside the blue recycler on the court and in your homes: Plastic bottles and jars, newspapers, magazines, telephone directories, catalogs, paper bags, packaging and dry food boxes, metal cans, clean foil and empty aerosol cans, paper and junk mail. Tennis ball cans, metal tops and plastic lids can all go in the recycler. Please do your part by making sure only recyclable items go into the blue bins.

Chaz Benefit

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your house which need to be recycled. If you would like to volunteer to help out on the day of the event, contact club member Mike Hernacki at 619-299-9985. A large trailer will be positioned at the end of the BTC Parking lot on June 7th for collection. Tell your friends, relatives and co-workers about the event which will directly benefit Chaz Griffin.



Pat Says Thanks!!!

Pat Mason was one of several individuals honored at the San Diego Tennis District Annual Awards dinner in January. Many of her friends and teammates showed up to honor her. Pat wants to express her deep gratitude for the support.

For all the latest club news, visit the
Balboa Tennis Club Website at

www.balboatennis.com

A Picnic for the Soul

by Gil Mahaney

Come with me
This blanket in
The grass only has
Room for two if
Was made for
Me and you
Sunrise sealed with
A kiss this morning
Was merely the first
Of this days many
Gifts make time
To while away the
Day let these hours
Go uncounted lay
Back and relax with me
Let's snack on
The joys of being
Together without concern
For keeping or losing
Control shall we taste
Every second of this
Day we've been blessed
With a picnic for
Our souls
So when darkness
Comes to blanket this
Scene with stars decorating
The sky of night
We can remain right
Here if you like
To sleep or play wandering
Each other sharing in
New delights as we
Sample yet another slice
Of the sweet life
Oh I'll give every kiss
I have to thank you for
Joining me on this
Picnic for our souls

Tournament Tennis Tips

by Geoff Griffin

Tournament season is upon us at Balboa Tennis Club. Having been a tournament director for many of San Diego's largest tournaments the last 20 years, I wanted to share some of the most common situations which arise from a director's perspective. Keep in mind that you are responsible for showing up on time and being ready to play. The director's have too many other situations to deal with and tardiness shouldn't be an issue. Most importantly, show up ready to play and enjoy the battle. If you require psychiatric help before and after each tournament match, stick with social tennis. Tournament play is not for everyone, yet it can be a great challenge to oneself and lots of fun.

"I can't believe you scheduled me to play at that time."

Tournaments are often 5-6 day events. Very few people are available to play at any time in a 5-6 day period. Once a draw is made and you see that you are scheduled at a time that is difficult for you it becomes much, much harder to get it changed. Once a draw is made some tournament directors will not budge. They will say that you must play as scheduled. Other directors like myself are willing to change your time if the opponent is willing and it does not impact any other divisions you or your opponent might be in or the often, already limited court availability. What's the solution? Write a very clear note to the tournament director stating your conflicts before the draw is made. If you have a lot of conflicts, don't play the tournament. If your conflicts are minor most tournament directors will work with you or at least give you your money back if your conflicts are more than they want to deal with. The line I hear at least twenty times in every big tournament I run is, "I can't believe you are scheduling me on Friday." It is your responsibility to look at the tournament dates and let the director know ahead of time if there are dates you are unavailable.

"I need a linesman. My opponent is cheating."

I am somewhat proud to announce that I have been playing tournaments for over 40 years now and as far as I can remember, I have never asked for a linesman. I'm not trying to boast. Maybe I would have won a few more matches in my lifetime if I had been

more like McEnroe and complained and asked for help every five minutes. In my opinion though, I should be able to take care of the problem without anyone's help. I truly believe that 99% of the bad calls ever made in tennis are a result of bad vision, not cheating. Mistakes will be made. Rather than waste the umpire's time, why not just use your common sense. The first time you get a bad call, talk it over with your opponent. If it's doubles, talk to both opponents. In doubles they should both agree on the call. If they don't, they should award you the point. There are going to be a handful of close calls in every match you play on both sides of the net. So just accept it and have fun. If you really feel you are getting robbed, then ask for an official.

"I'm caught in traffic, so I'll be late"

If there is an accident on the freeway which causes you to be a half hour late and the default time is 20 minutes, in theory you should be defaulted. Penalties are enforced if you are 5 minutes late (1 game and loss of toss), 10 minutes late (2 games and loss of toss), 15 minutes late (3 games and loss of toss). I can't speak for all tournament directors, but I will usually not default a player who calls while having a problem on the road. If a player calls and says he or she will be 20 minutes late I will give the maximum penalty (3 games and loss of toss). But I will not default the player. So make sure you have a cell phone with you. If you are going to be really late, like more than an hour, I suggest turning around and going back home. It's not fair to your opponent and you'll likely be so frazzled that you will play lousy anyway. If you have a long commute to the tournament site, give yourself at least 45 minutes clearance time to arrive at the tournament site and relax before your first match. This way even if you run into traffic, you will have allowed for ample time.

**NEED A HANDYMAN?
WE KNOW A GREAT ONE.**

Very reasonable and highly recommended
by Geoff and Manuela Griffin.

Tony Sukierski • 619 557-0117

Calendar of Events

May

4 Tennis Fest 2007
17-18 Hendrickson Memorial Wheelchair Tournament
20 BTC Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.

June

7 Free Tennis Clinic 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
9-15 USTA National Open Hard Court Championships
17 BTC Board Meeting
21-22 San Diego Summer Sports Classic 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

July

4-6 San Diego Tennis Federation San Diego Open
12-13 K and W Summer Junior Tournament 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.
15 BTC Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
25-27 78th Maureen Connolly Brinker BTC Open
28-31 Balboa Junior Tournament

August

1-3 78th Maureen Connolly Brinker BTC Open
16 Free Tennis Clinic 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
19 BTC Board Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
22-24 79th San Diego District Championships
30-Sept. 1 79th San Diego District Championships



Center Court

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2221 Morley Field Dr.
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