

*Rain Policy review... page 2*  
*Spotlight on the Tennis Café... page 5*  
*Metropolitan Tournament results... page 7*

# Courts Center

## Space limited for Turkey Shoot

Turkey time at the Balboa Tennis Club means our Turkey Shoot, the biggest round robin club social of the year.

This year Balboa's battle for the bird will be Saturday, November 20 at 3:30 p.m.

All players who are 3.5 or better are eligible to sign up for the Turkey Shoot.

The format is mixed doubles, very friendly, every player rotates partners and gets a chance to play with different people.

But someone is going home with a turkey.

After a couple hours of competition, Tennis Director Geoff Griffin will de-

termine which individual player has bested the rest and bagged the bird.

Annette Howell, head of BTC's Social Committee, will present an actual turkey to the winner.

Everyone else will get a turkey dinner, served after tennis at 5:30 p.m.

Are you new to BTC? Then the Turkey Shoot is just the way to meet other players!

We have so much to be grateful for at Balboa – why not take an afternoon to be grateful for your forehand?

Hurry! This event fills up every year! Sign up today!

The cost is only \$5, whether you want to play tennis, eat or both.

**Hurry! This fun event fills up every year!**

## Find someone to fill your shoes

The holidays can be a time of reflection, and we think maybe it's time you reflect on your footwear for a moment.

Most tennis players understand the importance of good tennis shoes. Sometimes shoes that are shot for tennis are still fine for walking around. Maybe you have a lot of shoes that fit this description. If you've got footwear piling up in the closet, maybe it's time to put the giving back in Thanksgiving.

The Balboa Tennis Club is sponsoring a shoe drive to find good homes for shoes. And we're not just taking tennis

shoes – so don't be afraid to clean out those closets! We can use any shoes in reasonably good condition – no holes or obvious damage.

We will be accepting shoes beginning Monday November 8, and we will be collecting them until the day before Thanksgiving, November 24.

Shoes may be dropped off in the special container outside the pro shop. Shoes should be tied together by the laces so they don't get separated.

All of the shoes will be taken to St. Vincent De Paul on November 24.

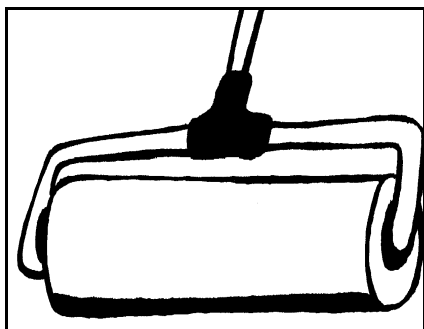
inside...

President's message from Robin Rodger	page 3
Help Griffin Tennis with their Toy Drive	page 4
Spotlight on the Tennis Café	page 5
Metropolitan Championship results	page 7

# Rain policy review

## Time-tested rules reduce squeegee heebie-jeebies

With October dumping a record amount of water on our tennis courts, it's about time to review how things are handled on rainy days when you need to squeegee a court.



When the courts need to be dried with a squeegee, the following policy applies:

1. Reservations will be honored. Arriving early and using a squeegee to dry a court that someone else has reserved will not give you the right to a court that is reserved.

2. Once you have taken a squeegee, you have one half hour from the start of your reservation to return the squeegee. For example, 9 a.m. players would need to return the squeegee by 9:30 a.m.

3. If the courts are so wet that it takes more than a half hour to squeegee, the reservationist does have the discretion to extend the half hour deadline.

4. Once the squeegee is re-

turned, the reservationist will mark off an extra half hour on your reservation. For example, doubles reservations beginning at 9 AM will run until 11 a.m. instead of 10:30 a.m. If you do not return the squeegee in time, you will not get the extra half hour of play.

5. Reservations will only be extended one half hour – even if the reservationist extends the deadline for returning the squeegee. You should take this into account before deciding to squeegee a court.

6. Once an extra half hour has been granted, every subsequent reservation will be moved back one half hour, as needed. For example, if a 9 a.m. doubles reservation is extended until 11 a.m., a member with a 10:30 reservation for the same court would be asked to wait until 11 a.m. (or choose another court if there is another court available).

That's it! BTC's Rain Policy was developed in the winter of 2000, with fairness and simplicity in mind. It has been in use ever since, and it seems to have worked well over the years.

If you have any questions or concerns, please ask to see Kent Sligh, BTC's Director, or fill out a suggestion form.



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

Robin Rodger  
President

Richard Barndt  
Vice President

Ron Celeste  
Treasurer

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Randy Gerson

Annette Howell

Terry Overbey

Linda Stadelli

Dwight Van Slyke

Will Tappen

Board Members

Kent Sligh  
Director

Geoff Griffin  
Tennis Director

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

# Holidays are a time to reflect

**By Robin Rodger, Balboa Tennis Club President**

As the end of 2004 draws near, it's a great time to reflect on our many blessings, and acknowledge the wonderful people who make up the Balboa Tennis Club.

In my last article I mentioned several ways that Balboa Tennis Club gives back to the community.

Geoff Griffin, Manuela and the Griffin family have always led the way in bringing tennis to people that otherwise might not be exposed to the game we all love.

Geoff recently conducted an adult clinic at the request of Rich Naher, who heads the Tennis Network. Geoff agreed to do the clinic, but only if the proceeds benefited the children at St. Vincent de Paul. Geoff, who was assisted by Mark Schmursal, raised \$360, which was used for a special children's event at the center.

One of our members approached a board member with an idea to give back by donating the tennis shoes we all have in our closets that aren't worn out, but for some reason we no longer wear.

A member, Fred Witt, suggested that we hold a shoe drive for St. Vincent de Paul's. This is especially poignant as we enter the winter season, and if October is any indicator, our rainy season. We will hold this drive for two weeks, from November 8 through November 24. The shoes will be delivered to St. Vincent's by our own David Ross, a case manager and a transition coach at the center.

Geoff Griffin will also be conducting the Sixth Annual Toy Drive from the first part of December to December 23<sup>rd</sup>. This toy drive benefits St. Claire's House in Escondido, which is a home for abused women and children. The gifts are to be *unwrapped* and placed in the designated box in front of the pro

shop. Gifts may be toys for the children or items for the women. Geoff and Manuela will drive the gifts up to St. Claire's on Christmas Eve.

I'm sorry to report Annette Howell will be moving on to new challenges once her term on BTC's board ends this year. Winner of the 2004 Member of the Year, Annette left her mark by improving our social functions and working hard to help us achieve the best court lighting possible. Her enthusiasm and energy will certainly be missed, and we wish her well in her new endeavors.

As we wrap up the year 2004 and prepare to enter 2005, we are endowed with an active board of directors and a realistic budget that will allow us to be a premier tennis facility. Prudent management has left us financially secure and still financially accessible to everyone.

Our employees are headed by Kent Sligh, who brings a terrific array of talents to the table. He is very fair, has a high degree of integrity and has the member's needs as a high priority.

Kent's staff of reservation agents has become more involved in the club's goals and is an integral part of our success. Our new maintenance man, Gil Mahaney, is doing a terrific job and seems to have a smile for everyone.

Our Pro Staff provides clinics and lessons that maintain a warm and encouraging atmosphere, also providing enthusiastic and technical support as we all strive to hone our tennis skills.

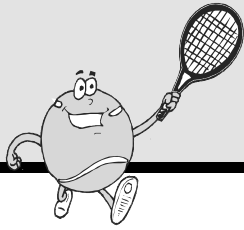
You can turn to page five to learn about Ed and Penny Barron at the Tennis Café, and everything they do to help around the club.

As you can see, we at BTC are very lucky. Let's remember that as we enter this holiday season and support our programs that benefit the less fortunate.

## BTC Directory Update

Is your phone number missing or incorrect in the directory? Would you like the correct number published here? Call 619-295-4242 and we'll include your correction in the next issue. Here are six new corrections:

Peter Conneely	(619) 437-0251	Fran Earley	(858) 922-9309
Earlene Hayes	(619) 523-8100	Shirley Kessler	(619) 223-9761
Alfonso Santana	(619) 291-8672	Judi Todd	(858) 292-7274



## Tennis Tips...

...from the pros

# Approaching victory

**By Kevin Johnston**  
**USPTA & USPTR**

Playing singles or doubles, it's a good idea to get to the net if the opportunity presents itself.

Being aggressive and coming to the net will put pressure on your opponent and increase your chance of winning the point.

Be patient when playing singles and wait for a ball that lands near the service line.

Hit the ball as an approach shot deep up the middle or to the corner. Your first volley should be directed deep in the court. Then move in closer to the net for the put-away shot.

In doubles, it's always a good idea to come to the net. You don't even have to wait for a short ball. The best time to attack is after your serve. Whether

it's a first or second serve, try to come in.

Your first volley will probably be hit back deep to the returner's side of the court. After hitting your first volley, move in a little closer to the net for either a winning volley or overhead.

The main goal on your first volley is to get it deep in the court to set up an easier second volley or overhead. Since you are coming in from beyond the service line or behind a serve, you will be further away from the net.

This will increase the likelihood that you may volley a ball that is low to the ground. This makes the volley a more defensive shot which does not allow for a winner. Try to wait for a ball that is above net level and inside the service line before you go for the put-away.

## Join Griffin Tennis again this year to help kids



**Geoff and Manuela along with nephew Shane Griffin and Alex Djordjevic on their way to deliver a truckload of gifts to St. Clair's House after last year's successful toy drive.**

### Unwrapped toys will help bring joy to less fortunate moms and children

It's that time of year again! Be on the lookout during the holiday season for our toy drive boxes to benefit St. Claire's House.

St. Claire's House is a place for battered women and their children in Escondido. Griffin Tennis, with your support, has been helping to brighten their holiday for six years now.

Toys should be new and unwrapped. Check with the Pro Shop for a list of other items that these moms could really use! Happy Holidays!

# Spotlight on the Tennis Café



## Best sandwich in Balboa Park

Did you know San Diego Home and Garden Lifestyle Magazine called the Tennis Café's Turkey Gobbler the best sandwich in Balboa Park?

The Balboa Tennis Club has been home to lots of accolades. Geoff Griffin and his staff have won numerous awards for their work to promote tennis throughout the community (check out page 4 to find out more about what you can do to help Griffin Tennis bring cheer to St. Claire's House this holiday season).

Since they took over the Tennis Café over two years ago, Ed and Penny Barron have meant much more to the Balboa Tennis Club than just an award winning sandwich.

Before taking over the Café, Ed Barron was the facilities manager at the YMCA. On more than one occasion Ed has used his experience as a former plumber to help the club.

There was the time the clubhouse flooded. Or when a cartridge went bad in the men's shower. When our ice machine broke, Ed helped fix it.

There have been a couple of toilets with bad valves.

A leaking sink. The city has shut the water off a number of times, and Ed is always on the spot to find out why.

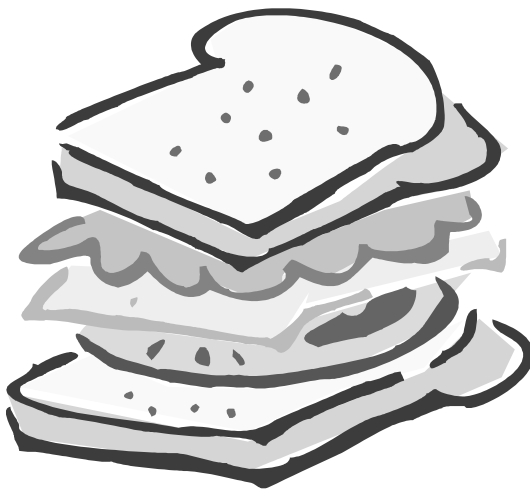
And it's not just that Ed is knowledgeable about a number of facilities issues – Ed and Penny are team players.

During every tournament they help the club in a hundred ways we never hear about.

When massive cross country meets overwhelm our facility, Ed and Penny are there to replace cups, keep an eye on the restrooms and give directions.

During the aftermath of last year's fires, Ed helped out by washing down our patios and walkways while our entire maintenance staff was busy washing courts.

So remember, when you support our Tennis Café, you're really supporting your club — and you're eating the best sandwich in Balboa Park!



## They'll call you "Coach"

Every Tuesday at 4 p.m. you'll find 50-plus kids on our teaching courts learning to love the game of tennis!

The clinics are free for the kids and Geoff and his staff don't charge for their time, but volunteers are always needed to assist pros, especially with kids under 6 years old. *No teaching experience necessary, just the ability to hand toss a ball!*

The best part is the feeling of satisfaction you'll get: The kids will call you "Coach."

Ask for Geoff in the pro shop.

## Please remove your spurs!

Now that many of our courts have been resurfaced, it's more important than ever that players use the correct footwear — no, not boots! — tennis shoes only, please. If you notice another player wearing shoes that mark the court, please tell the reservation staff so we can help keep our courts in top shape.



## New volunteers join Balboa's upbeat Board of Directors

BTC's Board of Directors is pleased to welcome two new board members, Darice Carnaje and Mark Gregory, who will begin terms in January.

Darice has served on the board's Tournament and Web Site Committees in the past. Many of you

already know Mark Gregory from his volunteer work on the teaching courts.

The board is also excited to welcome back current board members Randy Gerson, Terry Overbey and Dwight Van Slyke.

Randy will continue to work on

the Tournament Committee, Terry heads the Employment Committee and Dwight is the Facilities Committee Chair.

Special thanks to outgoing board member Annette Howell, who has made a great impact working long hours on the Social Committee.

# 2005 Special Events Schedule

January 15	Club Social # 1	3:30 pm Round Robin	Food served at 5:30 pm
February 19	Free Clinic # 1	3:00 pm — 4:30 pm	Sign up at the pro shop
March 7-11	Paul Buskey Memorial	18 courts used	Scheduled 11 am — 6 pm
Mar. 25-27, Apr. 1-3	Spring Tournament	15 courts used	6 courts open for reservations
April 16	Club Social # 2	3:30 pm Round Robin	Food served at 5:30 pm
May 1	Tennis Fest	15 courts used	6 courts open for reservations
May 14-15	Hendrickson Memorial	8-13 courts used	8-13 courts open for reservations
June 4	Free Clinic # 2	3:00 pm — 4:30 pm	Sign up at the pro shop
June 13-19	National Open Champs	15 courts used	6 courts open for reservations
July 1-4	SD Tennis Federation	8-18 courts used	3-18 courts open for reservations
July 22-24, 29-31	Balboa Open	18 courts used	3 courts open for reservations
August 1-5	Balboa Junior	8-15 courts used	6-13 courts open for reservations
August 20	Free Clinic #3	3:00 pm — 4:30 pm	Sign up at the pro shop
Aug. 26-28, Sep. 3-5	San Diego District	18 courts used	3 courts open for reservations
September 17	Club Social #3	3:30 pm Round Robin	Food served at 5:30 pm
Sep. 23-25, 30-Oct. 2	Metropolitan	18 courts used	3 courts open for reservations
October 22	Free Clinic #4	3:00 pm — 4:30 pm	Sign up at the pro shop
November 19	Turkey Shoot	3:30 pm Round Robin	Food served at 5:30 pm

# 2004 Metropolitan Championship Results

## Men's Open Singles

Condon, Brett (2) def. Bromberg, Zach (4) 6-4; 6-2

## Men's 35 Singles

DiLonardo, Mario (1) def. Farin, Todd 6-1; 6-0

## Men's 40 Singles

McMahon, Mark (1) def. Bushnell, David (2) 3-6; 6-2; 7-5

## Men's 45 Singles

Appleby, Scott (2) def. Foster, Andrew (3) 6-3; 7-5

## Men's 50 Singles

Ybarra, Tony (2) def. Hutchison, Kip (1) 6-2; 6-7; 6-2

## Men's 55 Singles

Bethard, William (2) def. Schiller, Jay (3) 4-6; 6-4; 6-1

## Men's 60 Singles

Zerboni, Joe (1) def. Dollins, David (2) 6-2; 6-3

## Men's 65 Singles

Singer, Jerry (1) def. Sanchez, Johnny (2) 6-4; 6-3

## Men's 70 Singles

Snyder, Saul (1) def. Turner, Jay 4-6; 6-2; 6-2

## Men's 80 Singles

Watters, James (1) def. Asher, Alvin 6-1; 6-3

## Men's Open Doubles

Kawahara, Chad / Ortiz, Manuel (1) def. Novelo, Marco / Rodriguez, Rodolfo (2) 6-4; 4-6; 6-4

## Women's Open Doubles

Yang, Maykim / Yang, Anna (2) def. Carnaje, Darice / Murray, Melinda (1) 7-5; 5-7; 6-2

## Mixed Open Doubles

Kawahara, Chad / Murray, Melinda (1) def. Acuna, Eddie / Yang, Anna (2) 6-4; 6-2

## Men's 35 Doubles

DiLonardo, Mario / Siordia, Rodger (1) def. Steely, Jack / Zarraonandia, Michael 6-1; 6-1

## Men's 40 Doubles

Gill, David / Herrmann, Peter (1) def. Ancira, Roberto / Doan, Eric 6-4; 6-3

## Men's 45 Doubles

Griffin, Chaz / Hutchison, Kip (1) def. Flowers, John / Lackritz, James 6-4; 7-6

## Men's 65 Doubles

Neuman, Donald / Snyder, Saul (2) def. Goetz, Henry / Lederer, Richard (1) 6-4; 6-4

## Women's 55 Doubles

Arceneaux, Cher / Blanchard, Virginia def. August-Butler, Carol / Lemery, Nancy Def

## NTRP Men's 4.5 Doubles

Pedace, Francis / Wolter, Barry (2) def. Cetale, Jose / Mayer, Chip (1) 6-4; 3-6; 6-2

## NTRP Men's 5.5 Doubles

Vo, Minh / Williams, Jerry def. Ancira, Roberto / Damasco, Jay 3-6; 6-1; 6-2

## NTRP Women's 4.5 Doubles

Gunset-Brown, Mary / Hillier, Mary Alice def. Goldcamp, Aimee / Howell, Annette (1) 6-0; 6-2

## NTRP Women's 5.5 Doubles

Mills, Samantha / Westhem Harrison, Lisa (1) def. Knock, Jennifer / Young, Ruth 6-3; 7-5

## NTRP Mixed 3.5 Doubles

Walters, Linda / Williams, Geoff (1) def. Cahan, Jenelle / Mercer, Eric 3-6; 6-4; 6-1

## NTRP Mixed 4.5 Doubles

Jung, Peggy / Ooms, Richard def. Kim, Sunny / Pomerence, William (1) Def

## NTRP Mixed 5.5 Doubles

Hodge, Steve / Mills, Samantha def. Siordia, Rodger / Vargas, Veronica 7-6; 5-7; 6-4

## Father-Son Doubles

Gerber, Ramsey / Gerber, Jack (1) def. Schiller, Jay / Schiller, Conner (2) 6-0; 2-6; 6-4

## Women's Open Singles

Watson, Kristi (2) def. Alarcon, Katy 6-7; 6-0; 6-2

## Women's 40 Singles

Mintz-Moskal, Laura def. Cripe, Laurel 6-1; 6-1

## Women's 45 Singles

Abler-sanchez, Nancy (1) def. Bauer, Jeannine 6-3; 6-1

## NTRP Men's 3.5 Singles

Agpaoa, Aurelio def. Brault, William (2) 7-5; 5-7; 6-3

## NTRP Men's 4.5 Singles

Dutta, Anjan (1) def. Pomerence, William (8) 7-6; 6-4

## NTRP Men's 5.5 Singles

Serna, Luke (4) def. Berg, Eugene 6-3; 3-5 Ret (inj)

## NTRP Women's 3.5 Singles

Bruinsma, Karin def. Donahue, Carol (1) 6-1; 6-3

## NTRP Women's 4.5 Singles

Wignall, Camille def. Sweeney, Katie (3) 6-2; 6-1

## NTRP Women's 5.5 Singles

Heubach, Nessa (1) def. Vega, Beatrice 3-6; 6-1; 6-4

# Calendar of events

## November

8-24	HOLIDAY SHOE DRIVE
16	BTC BOARD MEETING
20	TURKEY SHOOT ROUND ROBIN 3:30 TENNIS, 5:30 FOOD
25	RESERVATIONS CLOSED ON THANKSGIVING DAY

## December

7	BTC BOARD MEETING
15	VOLUNTEER HOLIDAY PARTY
25	RESERVATIONS CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY

## January

1	RESERVATIONS CLOSED NEW YEARS DAY
15	CLUB SOCIAL ROUND ROBIN 3:30 TENNIS, 5:30 FOOD
19	BTC BOARD MEETING
21	SDDTA ANNUAL DINNER WITH VIC BRADEN (Call the District Office at 619-299-8647 for info)

## February

16	BTC BOARD MEETING
19	FREE CLINIC 3-4:30 PM — SIGN UP IN PRO SHOP

# Center Court

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## inside...

Rain Policy review	page 2
President's Message	page 3
Tennis Tips from the Pros	page 4
2005 Special Events Calendar	page 5