



Center Court

NOVEMBER 2009

Balboa Tennis Club Holiday Gift Drive

For the last nine years, Geoff Griffin has directed the Annual Holiday Gift Drive for those less fortunate. This year Geoff will once again coordinate the event which kicks off December 1 through December 20. A list of needed items will be posted at the Pro Shop, Reservations and through the Club Updates. Stay tuned for more details.

Contributions will go to the San Diego Rescue Mission, which is a non-profit homeless shelter and recovery center serving thousands of homeless, hungry and poor, men, women and children. The club will also be receiving donations for the Storefront, which is an emergency shelter program for homeless, runaway and "street" youth. Young adults can access the shelter with or without referral and will be assured a safe place to stay until their lives have been stabilized. Both organizations welcome any type of support the club can donate.

San Diego Tennis Federation Wins Pac Cup in Vancouver!

Vancouver, BC Canada – For the fourth time in its eight year history, the Pacific Cup was won by the San Diego Tennis Federation. San Diego won the Cup September 12th -13th, in dramatic fashion for the second year in a row after defeating Seattle in the tiebreak scenario based on the percentage of total games won. San Diego and Seattle both tied with 18 match wins over the weekend, but Team San Diego



defended its 2008 championship after it was determined that San Diego won 58.6% of their games while Seattle won 56.9% of the games they played.

Six teams from the North American Pacific Coast competed at the annual event hosted by the Vancouver Tennis

Association: Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Palm Springs, and Vancouver. The weekend tournament features members from the six city's clubs who play 12 singles matches and 12 doubles matches.

The San Diego Pac Cup team was represented by: Bradley Blose,

See Federation continued page 2

BTC Booster Club Arrives

Beginning December 1, 2009, Balboa Tennis Club will be starting a Booster Club to add revenue for the lower court lights. All 25 courts will have two individual signs per court for \$250 per year, per sign. If you would like to donate to this fund, please let Colleen know via e-mail which court you would like and what you want your plaque to say, along with a check or credit/debit card. If you want a tax deduction, the checks need to be made out to the GSDCTC which stands for the Greater San Diego City Tennis Council. Below is a list of club projects we're aiming to complete.

Lights on the Lower Courts - \$140,000

New Backboard and Hitting Area - \$150,000

Covered Tournament Center - \$25,000

Court Sponsor - \$250



inside...

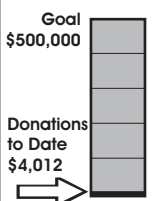
Articles

Toy Drive	1
Federation Repeats	1
Booster Club	1
Fitness Tip	3
Corporate Sponsor	4
World Team Tennis	4
Leslie Waite	5
Candidates	6
Metropolitan Results	6
BTC BALLOT - VOTE!!!	7

Departments

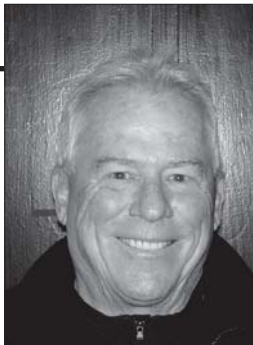
The President	2
Director's Report	3
Calendar of Events	8

BTC Fundraising Campaign



The President's Court Chatter

by Dwight Van Slyke



I never in my wildest dreams thought I would be President of any group, let alone one with 1450 members. Now after finishing my first term as President of the Balboa Tennis Club, to my surprise, it has been a very rewarding adventure. The support I've received from Colleen, the staff, the Board of Directors, Geoff, the tennis pros, all the members and volunteers, have made it a wonderful two years. So many members of this great tennis club have shared their love of tennis with me and deep appreciation for my efforts to continually upgrade every aspect of the club. Everyone has worked with a common goal to preserve the history of this club, yet upgrade in whatever areas are necessary to keep up with the swift pace of life.

The facilities have never been in better condition and this is a continual challenge considering the age of the buildings here at BTC. The Men's restroom is a work in progress, yet with the help of the city, both showers will be functional by the end of the year. A sink in the Men's Restroom now provides filtered water, per the request of many members. The new ice machine has been well received by members and tournament players as for the first time in history, the club had enough ice to make it through a tournament weekend without running out. The historical Maureen Connolly Brinker Stadium court also took on a new look with the US Open blue color which was voted on by the members. One of the next goals is more usage of this wonderful facility which can hold 4000 people. All these accomplishments have come with city and club funds and we still have money in the bank!

In looking ahead, the club has raised \$4000 for the lower court lighting and new backboard project with a goal of acquiring \$500,000. (We're still waiting for our stimulus money to arrive!) We are planning to hire someone to start our grant writing effort to raise money, along with our continuing efforts to attract corporate and individual funds. In the near future, we have been given the approval of the BTC Board of Directors and the City of San Diego to lock up all the courts at night. This will help keep the homeless people and vandals off the courts at night and keep them in better playing condition.

As for myself, I am offering my services as President of the club for another two year term. Thank you for your support. I look forward to working with all of you.

Federation Repeats *continued from page 1*

Junior Buendia, George Byrd (Co-Captain), Tom De Blois, Ding Dizon, Ricco Espinoza, Scott Guiltner, Frank January (Captain), James Kotonias, Keith Millard, James Phirman, Chris Rasmussen, Jerry Sabio (Co-Captain), Allen Sanchez (Assistant Coach), Carlo Santilla, Jon Tyler (Alternate), Jerome Van Amburg, David Weber, and Brian Wood (Alternate and Assistant Coach).



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

www.balboatennis.com

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Ruth Nutt
Robin Rodger
Melinda Murray
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

The Director's Report by Colleen Clery Ferrell



Time flies when you are having fun. Thank you for the last four great years at Balboa Tennis Club. I'm very thankful for my position and the opportunity to continually improve one of the best public facilities in the country. As we head towards 2010, we plan to keep moving forward with a main focus of getting lights on the lower six courts. Since a majority of our members play in the evening, we recognize this critical need so we are taking additional steps to make it happen.

Probably the most glaring need for lights is because of the tremendous growth of our USTA and WTT Leagues. In this issue of Center Court, I have featured two great women from our area who spearhead the leagues – Lesley Waite from the USTA and Carol Jory from the World Team Tennis. What was once a small group of people participating has turned into a year round mega group of enthusiastic players! In order to accommodate the numerous leagues and still have courts for non league members, we need those additional courts lit for night play. Please consider donating to our BTC Booster Club beginning in December 2009. All the

proceeds from these donations will go towards the lower court lighting project.

The tournament season for BTC was recently completed and I want to thank everyone who participated and for our sponsors. Even with all the economic challenges of today, the club managed to make a profit and also put on five quality events. We take pride in our tournaments and continually try to make them challenging for all entrants. Some of the divisions with fewer entrants turned into round robins in an effort to let the player participate in a match which was competitive and under tournament conditions. We encourage all of you to take advantage of playing the tournaments which are at our club.

Lastly, I want to encourage the members to utilize the Tennis Café whenever possible. Your daily purchases really help Al with his bottom line. Every little bit helps.

Have a great Holiday Season,
Colleen

Tennis, Fitness and Diet Tips by Ron Seno

Ron Seno has been a teaching pro at Balboa Tennis Club for three years. He is 63 years young and truly an inspiration for players of all ages, especially seniors. Ron spent most of his life in Hawaii prior to coming to San Diego. In addition to teaching and playing tournaments, Ron plays the ukulele and guitar. Here are some of his tips to improve your game on and off the tennis court.

Swing Preparation

Prepare in the back swing position quicker than the ball is moving. The earlier you get the swing ready, the more you can hit the ball in the direction you want. You will have better accuracy and placement.

Fitness

To keep a good balance in life,



watch your diet and exercise regularly. Ron tries to play matches 4-5 times per week. He's been lucky to be injury free. He gets in shape by using the ball machine so he can get a cardio workout and hit lots of balls.

Weight and Diet

Ron's dream was to get fat, but he

couldn't. Ron presently maintains a weight of 155 and he stands 5'5". Ron's favorite food is Klondike ice cream bars and blueberry muffins. He eats a little meat and seafood, along with many veggies.

Incorporating Hawaiian Lifestyle

Ron says, "Be active in life. Appreciate what you have every day. Hawaiian lifestyle comes from the heart – no negativity."

Concentration Techniques

During competition, "focus on the ball throughout the point," says Ron. "In between points, think about music or the weather, birds or singing. Block out negative talk. Refresh in between points."

"Life is a tennis match," says Ron. "It's about consistency!"

Spotlight on Balboa's Corporate Sponsor – **Roberto Ancira – Graphic Interfaces Inc. Owner**

Some people are fortunate enough to plan their lives around tennis. Long time member Roberto Ancira is one of the lucky ones who play tennis with passion every day possible. As owner of his own business, Graphic Interfaces, Inc., Roberto plans his work and works his plan around the games he loves.

“I don't look at business as something that pays the bills,” he says “I enjoy my work.” His passion for work, family and tennis go hand and hand. He makes time for all three on a daily basis and thrives on the satisfaction he derives from combining all of these pleasures in life. Nonetheless, tennis is a definite highlight of his day.

At 46 years young, Roberto races around the tennis court with the lightening fast speed of a ten - year -old on a soccer field in pursuit of a goal. Having grown up in Mexico City playing soccer, his swift movement on the court is natural and definitely advantageous to his game. Roberto needs the durability as he competes in 1-2 tournaments each month, in addition to daily competition. He claims he does “preventive

maintenance” on his body to stay in shape such as stretching and having regular massages. So far he is injury free, which is a rarity as players head toward the half century mark.

In addition to tournament play, Roberto competes in USTA Leagues and World Team Tennis. He considers Balboa Tennis Club to be his home base where he has been a member since 1996. “Balboa offers a great value for the dollar,” he says. “It's a very helpful and friendly club. Members look out for each other.”

Roberto remains focused on continual improving his game. His goals are to win a gold ball and get a chance to see all four Grand Slam tennis venues. Considering his dedication to the game he loves, his goals are attainable.



World Team Tennis at Balboa – Focus on Carol Jory



Did you ever wonder what goes on behind the scenes of World Team Tennis? Where do all the teams and players come from? Who puts everything together and makes semblance for all the leagues? You've seen the

name but have you ever met the person?

BTC member Carol Jory coordinates the nuts and bolts of World Team Tennis. Carol has been a member at Balboa since 1990. She moved to California in 1986 and took up tennis once again after starting in college in Indiana where she grew up. She started back to tennis on the Working Women League at Balboa and USTA Leagues where she continues to play. She became San Diego World Team Tennis coordinator in 2000.

Jory has seen the league develop and grow from hand written schedules to computer based excel formats. “The automation has come in the last five years,” she says. “When I first took WTT over, I really needed to get organized. “ With a business

management and accounting background and great familiarity with excel spread sheets, she's seen the league numbers rise dramatically over the last nine years. WTT national records indicate over 490,000 recreational league players.

How does the league keep growing? “The league is geared towards professional people who want to have a match set up after work,” says Jory. In addition, the league is very affordable at \$25. The players participate in 8-14 matches per season with top winning teams attending the WTT Nationals held at Indian Wells Tennis Garden.

WTT is a great opportunity for competitive tennis, yet the league is social and fun as well. In San Diego, all levels of play are offered from 3.0 – 4.5. As for the format, men's and women's doubles play first, followed by men's and women's singles and two sets of mixed doubles. Like the professional WTT format, the scoring is no ad, with player substitution and coaching allowed.

WTT has roots back to 1974 when Billie Jean King founded the World Team Tennis Recreational League, one of the most popular recreational tennis

See WTT continued page 5

Lesley Waite - USTA Southern California Coordinator

As a former tournament director, Lesley Waite knows the value of organization. She needs to constantly utilize this all important trait as she skillfully keeps order for 3500 players year round who compete in adult, senior, super senior, mixed doubles, flex leagues and SCTA Fall Doubles.



"In my wildest dreams, I never thought I'd be doing this," she says. "Yet I like the contact with the players and I enjoy what I'm doing with the USTA Leagues."

Back in 1985, Waite had a friend move to Atlanta, where ALTA (Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association) leagues were and still are today, very organized and plentiful. When her friend transferred back to San Diego, she told Waite she must bring the Volvo League to San Diego. So Waite decided to give it a try with four female teams in the 4.5 division, totaling 52 players all together. The USTA needed a local coordinator so she became an independent coordinator for the Southern California Tennis Association, running all of the USTA Leagues. This is how it all began for her. Now 28 years later, she continues to successfully manage all the leagues.

A big challenge for Waite in promoting the USTA Leagues is finding captains. "Lots of people want to play in a league, yet they don't want to be a captain," she says. Waite sets up the teams to play, yet someone has to be individually in charge of getting schedules to the players, make sure they know when to show up and to field a full team for each match. This requires more time and effort on the part of the captain. "The internet and e-mail have helped league captains," she says.

Most active tennis players fall into the 35-65 year old category. "After junior tennis at around age 19, there is a huge drop off," she says. So the USTA has come up with creative leagues to attract players such as "Tennis on Campus." This league is intended for college players who weren't able to make the varsity team, yet probably played in high school and they still want to be competitive."

The new USTA Flex League also offers more opportunities to continue playing tennis for life. In these leagues, the players set up their own time to play with their opponents. Whatever it takes to get players on the court, the USTA is willing to go the extra mile. Lesley Waite has the same attitude in running the leagues.

Waite has been a member at Balboa Tennis Club for 15 years so she fully understands all the club challenges with court availability. She used to play tournaments at Balboa on a regular basis. Now she is content with supporting the club as a member and spearheading all the USTA Leagues which run out of Balboa in addition to all the other clubs in the area.

"Everyone wants to play during prime time," she says. "Yet the courts are overloaded at all the clubs during prime time." Another big challenge is court availability as many clubs are being shut down. "People who are passionate about tennis need to lobby to get courts in newer parks," she says. "This is an increasing problem." The USTA leagues are here to stay. Hopefully as the popularity of tennis continues to rise back to prominence once again, more courts will be built. Thanks to great coordinators like Lesley Waite, the USTA League will continue to thrive.

WTT *continued from page 4*

formats in the U.S. Still today, King is very involved with WTT on a national level." Billie Jean always attends Nationals and offers to help out league directors" says Jory. Having just received the Presidential Medal of Freedom this past August, the nation's highest civilian honor, Billie Jean's association WTT is a plus for the league.

Balboa presently has a large representation of WTT teams in the 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 divisions. Like many of the clubs, the biggest challenge in handling a large volume of players is court availability. Hopefully when the lower courts are finally lit up, this problem will cease at Balboa Tennis Club.

As for Jory's future with WTT, she "enjoys what she does, loves tennis and will continue with her passion." Future growth calls for the implementation of a corporate league for WTT. Considering the way she has built and successfully managed WTT in San Diego, the corporate league would just be a few more excel sheets and many happy tennis players looking forward to getting out of work and heading to the courts.

Election Time – Make Your Vote Count!

This year five board members are up for reelection. Dwight Van Slyke is running for President unopposed. There are five vacancies open for a two year term, with seven candidates running. Below is a short bio on each of the candidates.

Jim Winters

I was born in Philadelphia. My folks moved to San Diego back in 1962. I have been a member of the Balboa Tennis Club for over 30 years. I played junior tennis, college tennis and today compete in a variety of local and national tournaments. I'm currently ranked as the #1 player in San Diego in my age division. In 1982, I founded the San Diego Tennis Federation (SDTF), which is the 3rd largest gay tennis organization in the United States today. I'm currently the coach of the girls/boys tennis team at Gompers middle/high school. Outside of tennis, I enjoy hanging out with my friends, cooking and going to see concerts. I also enjoy getting involved in our tennis community.

Kevin Barton

My name is Kevin Barton. I moved here two years ago from the southwestern part of Virginia and immediately fell in love with the city, the weather and especially the Balboa Tennis Club and the San Diego Tennis Federation. Coming from a place where indoor court time is very expensive and hard to come by, I feel fortunate to be a member of such a fantastic club. With the weather to play year round in San Diego I've found that over the course of the last two years the activities of the club and the SDTF have become a big part of my life. Running for a position on the Board of Directors gives me an opportunity to contribute my time and energy to serving the club and striving to make it a better place for all members. I would love to work for and work with other board members to meet the long term goals of the club, such as lighting the lower courts. It's my hope that I have the opportunity to contribute and enrich the club the same way that it has enriched me.

Gerald Bischoff

I have been an active playing member of Balboa Tennis Club for over ten years, as well as other tennis facilities in San Diego, since we relocated to California from New Jersey twenty three years ago.

See Candidates continued page 7

64th San Diego Metropolitan Tournament Results

September 25-27, October 2-4

Men's Open Singles – Templeman def. McGrath
6-4, 5-7, 7-5

Women's Open Singles – Sah def. Adair 4-6, 6-2, 7-6(4)

Men's 40 Singles – Brummitt def. Alapi 7-6(5), 6-2

Men's 45 Singles – Rolling def. Lievers 6-1, 6-3

Men's 50 Singles – Meyer def. Foster 7-5, 6-4

Men's 55 Singles – Hutchison def. Ybarra 7-6(7), 6-3

Men's 60 Singles – Aalam def. Wallace 6-4, 6-4

Men's 65 Singles – Housman def. Enyedy 6-0, 7-6 (2)

Men's 75 Singles – Albares def. McCaull 7-5, 6-7(6), 6-0

Women's 50 Singles – Clery Ferrell def. Abler-Sanchez
6-1, 6-0

Women's 60 Singles – Pharo def. West 3-6, 7-5, 6-4

Women's 75 Singles – Pflanz def. Simmons –
withdrawal illness

NTRP Men's 3.0 Singles – Kemp def. Chen 7-5, 6-4

NTRP Men's 3.5 Singles – Alberto def. Eeles – 6-4, 6-1

NTRP Men's 4.0 Singles – Broderick def. Tapia 6-2, 6-2

NTRP Men's 4.5 Singles – Rivera def. Alm 6-1, 6-1

NTRP Women's 3.5 Singles – Kato def. Romero 6-1, 6-3

NTRP Women's 4.0 Singles – Shuffleton def. Kidnew
6-0, 6-3

NTRP Women's 4.5 Singles – Soloranzo def. Sharratt
1-6, 6-2, 6-0

Men's 50 Doubles – G. Griffin/Schmersal def.
Davis/Hutchison 7-6(12), 7-5

Men's 55 Doubles – Bethard/Housman def.
Grajeda/Wrage 6-4, 7-6

Father-Son Doubles – T. Cramer/A. Cramer def.
D. Esparza/D. Esparza

NTRP Men's 3.5 Doubles – Smee/Williams def.
Dinh/Reyes 6-2, 7-6

NTRP Men's 4.0 Doubles – Doan/Soderholm def.
Saunders/ytterdal 6-3, 6-1

NTRP Men's 4.5 Doubles – Carroll/Pomerence def.
Baniqued/Bennett 6-2, 6-4

NTRP Women's 3.5 Doubles – Chatman/Mieko def.
Leeflang/Lyon 6-4, 6-2

NTRP Women's 4.0 Doubles – Morrin/Reasons def.
Gee/Rosenstein 2-6, 7-5, 6-3

NTRP 3.5 Mixed Doubles – Nakamura/Rothick def.
Mareschal/Stegenga 6-4, 4-6, 6-2

NTRP 4.5 Mixed Doubles – Aalam/Prudence def.
Granger/Zarbo 7-5, 6-4

NTRP 5.5 Mixed Doubles – Taylor/Kawahara def.
Acuna/Sah 6-3, 6-1

Candidates *continued from page 6*

In New Jersey our tennis family including my wife, Patti, our son, Keith, and our daughter, Gail, all enjoyed tennis as a wonderful activity. Our son went on to become a highly ranked tournament player and a teaching professional. I was a practicing architect up until my retirement from the County of San Diego, where I served as one of the chief architects on staff for seventeen years. Prior to working in California, I worked in the field of architecture in New Jersey for twenty five years. I believe my experience as a professional architect and an avid tennis player will be an asset to the Balboa Tennis Club. I therefore seek your vote for acceptance to the Board of Directors.

Robin Rodger

I am a past president of Balboa Tennis Club (1999 – 2007) and a current board member. I am proud that our facility is one of the finest in the United States and I enjoy working to improve the club, while keeping dues affordable to all.

Roxanne Drees

I moved to San Diego in 1984 when I got married. I have three wonderful sons who are all away at various California colleges. I started playing tennis about 7 years ago. I have been attending the clinics and taking private lessons at Balboa off and on for the last 5

years. I earned my BS in Business in 2004, and have worked as a staff accountant since that time. I am outgoing, love tennis, quads, motorcycles, camping, gardening, traveling, reading, and exploring new places to visit! I have enjoyed serving on the board for the last year and I would like to continue as the treasurer for the next term.

Richard Barndt

I am married with two step children. I was born in Pennsylvania and attended Penn State University for Electrical Engineering. After working three years in engineering, I attended law school in Michigan. I moved to California in 1992 and to San Diego in 1995, when I started playing tennis at BTC. I became a board member about 8 years ago and have been the vice president for about 5 years. My main goal is to keep BTC a family friendly place to play tennis.

Deanna Duncan

Hi, my name is Deanna Duncan. Now retired after three careers; raising 3 daughters, ten years in advertising and 10 years in business trust. I would like an opportunity to give back to my favorite sport here at BTC. I played recreational tennis from '71 – '83 at Del Cerro Park, Atlas Health Club from '83 – '93 and returned to BTC in '97 having started here with lessons from Wilber Folsom! 1200 members and 25 courts, what a challenge!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION BALLOT

Board of Directors Election Ballot – Please vote for five people, with a check mark or an X. Either mail the ballot to the club or leave it with the reservation attendant. Make sure your mailing label or name is on the ballot. The deadline for accepting ballots is December 1, 2009.

- Jim Winters
- Kevin Barton
- Gerald Bischoff
- Robin Rodger
- Roxanne Drees
- Richard Barndt
- Deanna Duncan



2221 Morley Field Drive
San Diego, Calif. 92104

Calendar of Events

November

17	BTC Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
21	Turkey Trot Club Social -3:00 p.m. Tennis, 5:00 Food

December

1-20	Geoff's Annual Holiday Gift Drive
8	BTC Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
16	Holiday Volunteer Party – 6:00 p.m.
25	Reservations Closed for Christmas Day

January

1	Reservations closed for New Year's Day
15	San Diego District Annual Dinner – 7:00 p.m. La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club
19	BTC Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
30	Kickoff Social – 3:00 p.m. tennis, 5:00 p.m. food

February

13-14, 20-21	Junior Satellite Tournament
16	BTC Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
21	Free Tennis Clinic – 3:00 p.m.



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inside...

Articles	
Toy Drive	1
Federation Repeats	1
Booster Club	1
Fitness Tip	3
Corporate Sponsor	4
World Team Tennis	4
Leslie Waite	5
Candidates	6
Metropolitan Results	6
BALLOT - VOTE!!!	7
Departments	
The President	2
Director's Report	3
Calendar of Events	8