



Center Court

NOVEMBER 2011

San Diego and Balboa Tennis Club Hosting ITF Senior Event February 6-11

The ITF and the San Diego Sports Commission will stage the 2012 Seniors World Championships February 6-19. The tournament assembles the top senior tennis athletes from around the world in ten age categories at seven venues spread across the city. Luca Santilli, ITF Head of Junior & Seniors Tennis said, "We are excited to be in San Diego. This beautiful city will provide an excellent backdrop for the world's premier seniors tennis event and its numerous venues are well suited to host an event of this magnitude."

More than 1,000 athletes from around 35 different countries are expected to participate in the event. The tournament will be split into two parts: the [Seniors World](#)



[Team Championships](#) on February 5-11 and the [Seniors World Individual Championships](#) on February 12-19. There are no prerequisites to enter the Individual Championships, making it available to anyone including local San Diegans. Venues include, Balboa Tennis Club, La Jolla Tennis Club, Barnes Tennis Center, La Costa Resort & Spa, Morgan Run Club & Resort, La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club, and San Diego Tennis & Racquet Club.

"It is very exciting to be able to work with the SDSC and ITF to show off the city of San Diego to the worldwide audience that will accompany the ITF Seniors," said

Bill Kellogg, President of the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club. "The players participating in these events include former touring pros as well as the best senior players from around the world, and we plan to make a great impression on every one of them. Many world champions will be crowned, which makes for some compelling tennis."

All players competing in the 2012 ITF Seniors World Championships are required to obtain an International Player Identification Number (IPIN). The annual membership will be valid from the date of registration until December 31, 2012. To register, please visit the IPIN website at ITFtennis.com/IPIN. To learn more about the ITF Tournaments, visit the website at <http://www.itfsandiego.com/>

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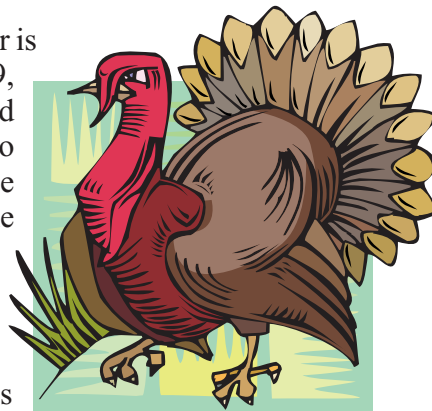
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Turkey Shoot Social November 19, 2011

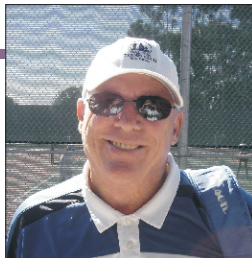
3:00 p.m. Round Robin Tennis • 5:00 p.m. Food and Fun

The most popular social of the year is scheduled for Saturday, November 19, at 3:00 p.m. The format will be a round robin tournament, divided into two groups of ability levels. There will be four \$25 prizes raffled off after the tennis. Please sign up early at the Reservations Desk. The cost is \$10.00 per player and this covers the food and drinks after the event. Keep in mind this is a social event with competition as a bonus! Have fun and enjoy this kickoff to the holiday season.



The President's Court Chatter

by Dwight Van Slyke



2011 has been another wonderful year of tennis, friends and events at Balboa Tennis Club. The lighting of the lower 6 courts was completed along with the new Paume Cafe and many little improvements like the lounge chairs, patio table and painting. A security camera system was donated by a member and has become a tremendous tool for the club. Management can monitor the club 24/7 from any computer. The system greatly improves our security during the day and night as well. Our talented guys at the desk can look to see which courts are open when lights need to be turned off. The security system can help run tournaments by being able to view all of the courts on a monitor. Overall, so many improvements at the club have really taken Balboa Tennis Club to another level.

Additional landscape projects are underway, headed up by BTC member Dan Hays (retired landscape contractor). Dan has kindly volunteered his time to coordinate these projects. The Club will work in conjunction with the San Diego Park & Recreation Department to provide new plants and foliage. Be looking for all the landscape upgrades around the club as they will be happening in stages and really beautify the surroundings.

I would like to thank the members of the Balboa Tennis Club for accepting the dues increase so that all of the wonderful improvements to our club can be accomplished. We are so fortunate to have a very dedicated and capable Board of Directors and staff that keep this club functioning at its very best. Please feel free to stop by and sit in on one of "your" board meetings which are open to members every third Tuesday at 7pm in the clubhouse.

New BTC League Rule Effective 2012 Regarding Teams

All captains must submit a complete team roster to the Reservations Desk at the beginning of the season and get all individual memberships cleared within a week. The first week's matches will be booked, yet no additional weeks will be booked until every member on the team is cleared as a current member. This rule stands for USTA and WTT teams.

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

www.balboatennis.com



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295-9278

www.balboatennis.com

President

Dwight Van Slyke

Vice President

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Kevin Barton

Gerald Bischoff

Ruben Carriedo

Peter Conneely

Mary Gunset

Brad Hasper

Pat Mason

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 Christmas.

Reservations & Info... 295-9278

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

Pro Shop..... 291-5248

Tennis Café 606-2233

Submissions to the newsletter are welcome.
Call 295-4242

The Director's Report by Colleen Clery Ferrell

It's hard to believe the holidays are upon us and we are wrapping up another year. Hope things are going well for all of you and that you are finishing out the year strong, whether it is in family ties, business or sports.

2011 has been a year of great accomplishments for BTC. Of course we are most proud of the new lights on the lower courts and the state of the art security system. We keep trying to move forward in every aspect from the cleanliness of the club to general upgrades. For instance, this year we outsourced the janitorial service of the club and have seen tremendous consistency. By breaking up the maintenance duties, there is more attention to detail. The overall look and consistency of the club is very important to the BTC Board of Directors and this attitude is passed on to the staff as well.

My weekly updates aim to keep everyone informed about what's going on at the club without overloading your mailbox. One of our members in the military commented, "Thank you for all the updates. They make me feel close to home when I am traveling." I try to put out an email once a week covering what the court availability will be over the weekend, highlights from the past week, maintenance issues and general club information along with a weather update. Right now I have 900 people in my database and it's growing daily. Let me know if any of you want to be included or taken off the list.

The most recent commercials on television supporting Homeland Security apply to Balboa Tennis Club as well. If you notice anyone strange at the club, people sneaking on to the courts, damage to areas of the club, whatever, don't hesitate to notify me or the Reservations Staff. I try to inspect the courts and walk the perimeter regularly, yet sometimes I miss things. Don't hesitate to let me know when you see issues which need to be addressed, especially in the men's restroom which I don't visit regularly!!!

Lastly, I have received some emails about the excessive court reservations for tournaments. Just to let you know, the basic policy for selling courts outside of BTC approved tournaments, (Buskey, National Open, BTC Open, BTC Junior, SD District Tourney and the Metropolitan,) is that they must be approved by the Board of Directors to begin prior to 12:00 p.m. The later start date lessens the impact on members during prime time. High school court usage is seasonal and generally takes place during low impact hours 1:00 - 4:00 and always on weekdays.

The bottom line is that the club works hard to find a balance between renting the courts for revenue purposes and having enough free courts for member usage. Tournament income and outside court rentals account for nearly a quarter of our total club income, so we need to keep running tournaments and renting courts in order to remain on budget. Finding balance is the key; making everyone happy is an even bigger challenge.



New Camera System Provides Security & Efficiency



BTC now has the state of the art video security system up and running. With cameras strategically located throughout the complex and monitored at the reservation desk, we hope to deter the vandalism that has been a problem in the past. Additionally, we will be more efficient with court assignments and reservations as staff will no longer need to stroll the courts to verify vacancies. And, no more sneaking on by non-members. We see you!

Junior Player on the Move – Conan McCormack

Our BTC featured junior tennis player says he “likes to play matches and win!” Sounds like a good basic philosophy for a future champion. At eight years young with a distinctive competitive twinkle in his eyes, Conan McCormack is on his way to a successful junior career. After gaining his first tournament victory in an East County Satellite 10 and under tournament, Conan is inspired to get more serious about his game. “I like to win, but I get more experience losing. I’m able to find out how others play to improve,” says the determined junior; quite a mature statement of analysis from a 4th grader at Albert Einstein School in South Park.

Conan actually started his tennis career at 4 ½ years old when he used to stroll around the park as a toddler with his mom Chie. Coach Geoff Griffin recommended tossing balls to Conan and trying to hit them. Soon Conan began participating in the Free Junior Clinics sponsored by Griffin Tennis. At 6 ½, Conan branched out to private lessons utilizing the Quick Start format with former BTC Pro Catalin Chira. “He liked using the foam balls because the regular balls bounced too high,” said Mom Chie. “With the smaller balls and lower net, he could actually play a game.” This ability to rally at a young age is one of the many reasons the USTA now fully endorses Quick Start Tennis. Conan is a concrete example of a young player developing the necessary skill set to advance successfully to the next level.

After Catalin's departure, Conan started working with the newest addition to the BTC Teaching Staff Armando Sandoval. Conan says his coach is working on his best stroke, which is the backhand, to make it better by adding slice and a drop shot. In addition to his workouts with Armando, Conan practices daily with his Mom. He takes the initiative himself to pick up court slips and make reservations. Only Sunday is a designated day of rest for the disciplined youngster. “I want to be one of the top players on television and get a big trophy,” he says. “I’m going to play college tennis and then maybe the pros, somewhere between 20 and 30 years old.” With beaming confidence and early focus, Conan's path of success appears set. No baby steps for this kid!!!



Conan McCormack & Armando Sandoval

Match Play vs. Practice

By Armando Sandoval

Why is it so hard for me to feel and play matches the same way I feel during practice and/or during warm up sessions? Have you ever heard that question? The answer is simple. They are different scenarios.

During match play everything will count: Sometimes in your favor, sometimes against you. On the other hand, in practice you are “free” to make mistakes which have no real consequences.

Playing matches is about decision making. Not about technique. So you should insert the decision making process into your practice or warm up sessions.

When in practice you should concentrate on hitting the ball in front of your body, visual awareness, your racquet coming from low to high (in a clean path) and watching the ball when it

bounces. You must try to be consistent in executing the tasks you have decided to work on BUT please, just one at a time. This way you will be adapting your brain to a different process.

Some other tasks may include footwork, hitting the ball with different spins, at different heights, speeds or placing the ball in different spots. But remember try to be consistent with ONE specific task for a few minutes. This way when the real match starts, your brain will already be trained for game like situations and the correct decision making processes because you will have already worked on it.

You may discover you have new qualities and areas of opportunity.

Questions? Comments? I will be glad to hear from you! Sdtennis10s@gmail.com

Geoff's Philanthropic Recap

by Tennis Director Geoff Griffin

Thanks to all of you who helped make Adopt- A-Unit a success. I hope you were all able to read the inspiring thank you emails from Afghanistan and Iraq; almost made me want to start all over again! Hopefully we can help out next year unless our troops come home in the meantime.

A special thanks to the four teens that are always there for me: Tiffany and Francis Filipovich and Lani and Oksana West. I can't imagine doing any charity event without their help. If you didn't get a chance to see the thank you emails from the service members, please let me know. I will send them to you. I recently posted two thank you cards at the reservation window.

Our Wounded Warrior program is going very well. We still meet twice per month. We have expanded our program to include injured service members from other parts of the country. If you would like to donate to the lunches, which are a big part of



the semi monthly gatherings, let me know.

I will be looking for your help again this year for BTC's Holiday Gift Drive. Like last year, we will be supporting immigrant families at the San Diego Rescue Committee and homeless teens at both Stand Up For Kids and Storefront. I expect to adopt 15 families. They went really fast last year so please let me know if you want me to set aside a family for you.

Lastly, we are hosting a special little tournament on the weekend of December 3rd. All the proceeds from the tournament go to an orphanage in Tijuana. The charity is called Grace Babies' Home and Grace Children's Home. The tournament is singles and doubles for both men and women, 3.5 and 4.5. You can register online at www.taftennis.net. Space is limited so enter ASAP. There will be prizes and giveaways. Please consider playing while supporting this great cause.

Home Away From Home

Dotty and Len Karp should have suspected that tennis would play a major role in their lives when they met on a tennis court in Upstate New York and their first date was at the US Open in 1958 at Forest Hills, watching Rosewall playing Gonzalez. Raised in the Northeast, basketball was the sport of choice in high school and college for Len, while Dotty played volleyball and participated in dance. The Karps therefore, were late comers to the sport of tennis. Len played both basketball and some tennis during his tour with the US Air Force in Fairford, England during the Korean War. He and Stan Griffin would later discover that they had both played tennis with the same USA



Force Lieutenant, during the same time period, but they never ran into one another. Now they talk a great deal about old times.

After their marriage, tennis lessons became a mutual passion. They both enjoyed the competition and camaraderie of new tennis acquaintances which in many cases have developed into lifelong friendships. Now after being married for 52 years, they attribute their marital

success and longevity to shared interests, communication, trust, giving space, individuality and knowing when to stop playing mixed doubles as partners!!!!

Dotty and Len are college graduates with Len attending Seton Hall University as a business major and Dotty spending her four years at Queens College of New York as an Education and English major. The Karps are blessed with two children and four granddaughters, all of whom reside back East and in Florida. In 1976, they were looking for a better environment to raise their children and a warmer climate, so they moved to Scottsdale.

In 1988, when their daughter
See Home continued page 7

GSDCTC: On the Rise to Restore Tennis Courts in Need

The Greater San Diego City Tennis Council (GSDCTC) consists of five dedicated volunteers, all desiring the same mission: to save public tennis courts by making them playable and safe with a focus on underserved and deserving communities, schools and public parks. Beginning with President Ben Press, one of the original founders in 2000, and Vice President/Secretary/Project Manager Roz King, the Council continues to thrive and produce results.

"2011 has been a banner year for GSDCTC," according to Financier David Gill. "During the eight month period from May to December 2011, we anticipate to have resurfaced 23 courts, including four Quick Start courts for juniors and converting the school courts from metal to conventional nets." As San Diego continues to lose tennis courts due to construction, the Tennis Council is working with local communities, foundations and corporate sponsors to provide supervised grants specifically designed to repair existing tennis courts.

In addition to Ben Press, Roz King and David Gill, two other key members round out the successful group. Tom O'Brien came on board in 2008 as a Grant Writer. He specifically prepares the grants and follows up with the contacts. Long time volunteer Fred Circo completes the staff by being in charge of Court Evaluation before and after the projects. "Each member has a specific role," says Roz King, "which has added to the success of the group."

Originally started in 2000 by Ben Press and the late San Diego tennis legend Bill Stack, the Greater San Diego City Tennis Council has evolved into an organization which gets things done with all volunteers assuming roles and working towards a sole purpose. "Ben has been wonderful at getting contacts," says Roz. "He is persistent and has been beating the bushes for years." As a 501-C3 non-profit organization, the Tennis Council utilizes finances from corporate sponsors, foundations and individual contributions to repair the courts and also provide a tax exemption for the donation.

There was a time when GSDCTC received matching funds with the SD Park and Recreation Dept. The City would put in half and GSDCTC would add the other half. This past year their partner base has

expanded to include the San Diego Tennis District and the Southern California Tennis Association, just to name a few. Of course this is the direction GSDCTC needs to head as their expanding donor base is the key factor allowing them to continue completion of court resurfacing around the city. Right now they are looking for additional funding partners to expand their capital base. "Foundations need to deploy money," says Financier David Gill. "We feel that GSDCTC is a deserving recipient for the funds."

Based out of an office in the Reservations building here at Balboa Tennis Club, the group meets weekly to plan their strategies and review ongoing projects. Their overhead is low as the only paid employee is a book keeper. All of the acquired funds are designated for purchasing conventional nets to



Tom O'Brien, Fred Circo, Ben Press, Roz King and David Gill

replace steel nets which still exist in the city and towards resurfacing to cover up all the cracked, pitted, stained, sloped and unsafe tennis courts in San Diego County. Future plans potentially include expanding the scope of GSDCTC to include aid for the military and Imperial County.

If you have any ideas for the council, send an email to gsdctc@gmail.com or a letter to 2221 Morley Field Drive, SD 92104. They will forward a grant application if requested. Schools or public facilities which need help to restore courts are welcome to apply. Right now there are four facilities on the radar and they are working to arrange for renovation of these courts.

"We are looking for corporations, foundations and individuals who enjoy the satisfaction of giving and can also benefit from the tax credit," says Roz

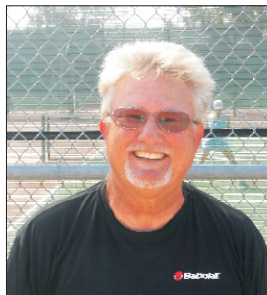
See GSDCTC continued page 7

Meet Your New BTC Board Members

Dan Hayes Future Board Member 2012-2013

- ◆ Native San Diegan,
- ◆ Graduate of Point Loma High & SDSU
- ◆ Married 36 years; 5 children ages 24-34
- ◆ Lives downtown at Breeza where he is President of the Board
- ◆ Belonged to BTC for 2 years
- ◆ Retired from the landscape industry after 40 years
- ◆ Initial desire as a BTC Board member is to improve the appearance of the landscape around the club.
- ◆ Encouraging the City to step up their efforts in maintaining the areas that are their responsibility including irrigation.
- ◆ Helping facilitate the re-landscaping of particular areas around the club. The City of San Diego will be providing the plants and labor at no additional expense to the BTC. Specific areas of the club will be targeted for upgrades like the front of the Pro Shop and Clubhouse, brick planter at the main entry, and under the ficus tree at the Pro Shop entry. The area surrounding the Reservations building will also be enhanced. The open area next to courts 19-21 will also see changes. The Oak tree in the central courtyard was pruned to allow more sun light to reach the turf and therefore grow stronger turf. Eventually the potted plants will be put back into the main viewing area between courts 8 and 9. These plants will need to be watered regularly.

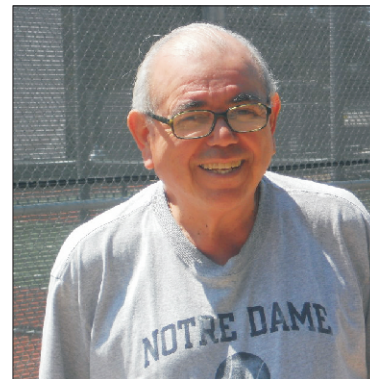
These are my priority items but there will continue to be future landscape beautification projects.



Ruben Carriedo

Meet Ruben Carriedo, a new BTC Board Member. Ruben grew up playing tennis at Morley and taking lessons from SD Hall of Famer Fred Kinney in the 50's. Ruben left San Diego on a tennis scholarship to Notre Dame, after which he joined the Peace Corps and spent time in Bolivia.

Ruben returned to San Diego and has had a 30 year career as a teacher until he recently retired. He never lost his love for the game of tennis, so he volunteers as an assistant tennis coach at St. Augustine.



GSDCTC *continued from page 6*

King. "We welcome players and teachers who come forward with ideas." Joint usage and availability for the public with after school programs, family tennis day and "drop in tennis" as important components for consideration. All of the programs need to be open to the public and promoted to the community.

GSDCTC is now in a position more than ever before in their history, to help the tennis community. They are better organized and moving forward at a rapid pace. "I really enjoy what we're doing," says Ben Press. "This is a very compatible group." With 134 tennis courts being refurbished over the past 11 years, GSDCTC should be proud of their accomplishments. Hopefully with continued financial support, this "Fab Five" group of volunteers will continue to put tennis back on the map as the greatest sport of a lifetime where it belongs.

Home *continued from page 5*

married and their son graduated from college, Dotty and Len decided to retreat to the mountains each summer to escape the brutal Arizona heat and play tennis in cooler conditions. On a return trip from the mountains, they began to recognize that competitive tennis at 9000 feet was no longer a good idea. This is when they discovered San Diego and the Balboa Tennis Club.

During the past eight summers here, they have participated in tournaments and have enjoyed positive results. Len's highest national ranking has been 14 in doubles and 26 in singles. Dotty achieved a national ranking of 10 in doubles and 7 in singles. "Of the many states and different clubs we have been fortunate to enjoy summer tennis at, Balboa Tennis Club ranks at the top. The welcome we have enjoyed has made us feel a part of your tennis family so we call BTC our Home Away From Home!!!"

Calendar of Events

November

5-6	K and W Tennis Tournament
19	Turkey Shoot Social – 3:00 p.m.
29	BTC Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

December

14	Volunteer Appreciation Party
25	BTC Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

January

13	San Diego District Annual Dinner – 7:00 p.m. La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club
17	BTC Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
28	Playoff Fever Social 3:00 p.m.



2011 66th Annual San Diego Metropolitan Tournament Results

Men's Open Singles – Garcia def. Tracy – 4-6, 6-4, 6-3
 Women's Open Singles – Ortiz def. Toth
 Men's Open Doubles – Chip/Garcia def. Marchner/Tracy – 6-4, 6-3
 Men's 40 Singles – Tracey def. Rost – def. (ns)
 Men's 45 Singles – Ortiz def. Brummitt - 1-6, 6-0, 6-3
 Men's 50 Singles – Siordia def. Magtanong – 6-4, 4-6, 6-2
 Men's 55 Singles – Hutchison def. Schraeger – 7-6, 7-5
 Men's 65 Singles – Bryan def. Kaplan – 7-5, 6-3
 Men's 80 Singles – Martinez –De Pison def. Polley – 6-2, 6-0
 Women's 50 Singles – Clery-Ferrell def. Marin – 6-3, 6-1
 Mixed Open Doubles – Acuna/Jones def. Kellogg/Ortiz – 6-4, 6-7, 6-4
 Men's 55 Doubles – Hulbert/Naumann def. Hutchison/Manilow – 6-4, 6-7, 6-4
 Father-Son Doubles – Levie/Levie def. Pina/Pina 6-2, 6-0
 NTRP Men's 3.5 Singles – Nguyen def. Thompson – 6-0, 6-0
 NTRP Men's 4.0 Singles – Felice def. Cruz – 6-4, 5-7, 6-4
 NTRP Men's 4.5 Singles – Hom def. Estrada – 6-4, 7-5
 NTRP Men's 5.5 Singles – Marchner def. Basinger 6-2, 1-6, 7-5
 NTRP Women's 3.5 Singles – Wilhelm def. Percy – 6-4, 6-4
 NTRP Women's 4.0 Singles – Roach def. France – 6-1, 6-0
 NTRP Women's 4.5 Singles – Kellogg def. Sharratt – 6-1, 6-3
 NTRP Men's 4.0 Doubles – Pepa/Sabino def. Autry/Gomez – 4-6, 6-3, 6-3
 NTRP Men's 4.5 Doubles – Le/Watson def. Granger/Quinto – 6-4, 6-2
 NTRP Women's 3.5 Doubles – Morissette/Oswald def. Felder/Griffin – wd/(inj)
 NTRP Women's 4.5 Doubles – Nguyen/Robert def. Lyon/Tomita – 6-3, 6-2
 NTRP Mixed 4.5 Doubles – Howell/Magtanong def. Gamboa-Wood/Hom – 6-4, 7-5

