

# Center Court

**AUGUST 2006** 

# 77th Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open a Huge Success

Despite a few rainy mornings, high humidity and record breaking temperatures, the 77th Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open finished on a high note with two newcomers claiming the top prizes. Thomas Liversage, a USD



Men's Open Champion Thomas Liversage (right), Geoff Griffin, Tournament Director, and finalist Ini Ghidirmic (left).



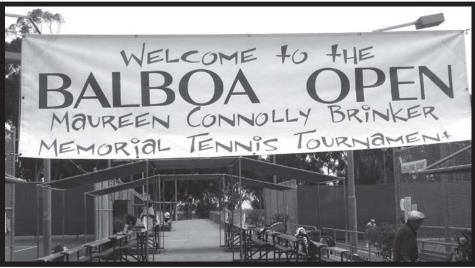
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student originally from South Africa, captured the Men's Open Singles title, 6-4,7-5, in a highly competitive match. Dutch native Stephanie Herz won the Women's Open Singles title. Stephanie has spent the last six years in Florida, training with Nick Bolleteri. Currently she's being coached by her father in Saddlebrook, Florida, along with San Diego coach Ross Greenstein. She frequently practices with Martina Hingis in Florida.

In addition to the Men's and Women's Open winners, there were numerous Balboa Tennis Club members who captured their divisions. Congratulations to all those who battled the elements and made the attempt to beat the heat.

For complete results, see Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open on page 7.



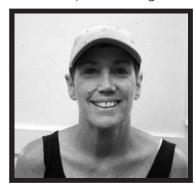
Women's Open Champion Stephanie Herz (right), Geoff Griffin, Balboa Tennis Director, and finalist Shabnam Eslami (left).

For all the latest club news, visit the Balboa Tennis Club Website at www.balboatennis.com

# The President Speaks...

by Robin Rodger

Balboa Tennis Club is experiencing a very successful tournament season. More players are entering than ever before. The efficiency of the court usage has improved as well as the feedback from the umpires working the events. Thanks to Geoff Griffin for using the minimum of courts for the Junior Tournament so that the members would have a few extra courts. Think about entering one of the three remaining



tournaments- San Diego Districts, Senior Olympics or the Metro. Check the back page for dates.

Colleen Ferrell has just completed her first year on the job!! She has done a wonderful job of working well with the Board of Directors, meeting the membership, keeping on top of a zillion things that could overwhelm another person, and best of all inspiring pride in our great and unique facility. We look forward to many more happy years with Colleen at our helm.

There are some new additions to the clubhouse with the Hall of Fame cases, the cabinet for the television and microwave. We did have a VCR but someone walked off with it and so we're putting our thoughts of a tennis tape library on hold. I would like to mention that the Hall of Fame funding came entirely from the Belinsky family and the San Diego District Tennis Association.

Balboa Tennis Club encourages all of us to grow in our skill level through our free clinics (don't miss the free clinic on August 19th), and encourages friendship through our club socials. We have two more free clinics and two more socials left this year. Come have some fun and meet new people.

Applications for positions on the Board of Directors will be available on September 1. Please consider joining the board and working with a very talented, diverse and committed group of people who sincerely care about the club



## **League Update**

The 2007 USTA Mixed Doubles League will be accepting rosters until November 30th. Contact Lesley Waite at 858-755-8110 for further information. The Women's Winter League begins in January. Rosters for the winter league are due a month before play begins. For more information, contact Mary Jo Ross at 619-444-7677 or check online at www.sdleaguetennis.net



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

www.balboatennis.com

President

Robin Rodger

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Treasurer

Ron Celeste

Secretary

Linda Stadelli

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Peter Conneely

**Bob Gates** 

Randy Gerson

Barbara Gregorio

Don Goyette

Terry Overbey

Dwight Van Slyke

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  $\operatorname{Christmas}\nolimits.$ 

Reservations & Info... 295-9278

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

Tennis Café ...... 299-8787

Submissions to the newsletter are welcome. Call 295-4242

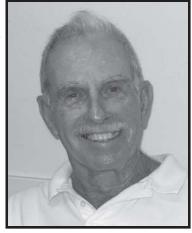
## Member Profile — Pete Sullivan

Long time members of the historic Balboa Tennis Club, such as Pete Sullivan, represent a truly special part of our membership base. Pete epitomizes the large segment of faithful players who have graced this club with their spunky and competitive spirits for over 20 years. From the day Pete arrived at BTC, he says, "I've always loved this club."

Pete, who is originally from Boston, made his way out West and worked in purchasing and sales for years in Northern California. In the late 60's, he

decided to go to law school and earned his degree from the University of San Francisco. He worked as a Public Defender in Alameda County from 1971-1981 and then retired at 50 years old after his beloved wife passed away. In 1983, Pete moved to America's Finest City after being encouraged by some close friends.

While bike riding had become his passion up North, Pete found the paths a bit more challenging down South here in San Diego. Increased traffic created too much of a challenge. One day a neighbor of his signed the both of them up for tennis lessons at



BTC. After the first lesson, Pete inquired about membership and the reservation clerk informed him of the \$55 fee.

"Is that per month?" Obviously the \$55 was the annual cost 20 years ago so Pete went for the bargain and joined the club. "How do I get in a game?" A woman was standing nearby and she replied, "Sit in the stands and look lonely." The rest is history. Over the past 20 years, that "lonely look" has produced competitive games, many friends and years of happiness.

In addition to his tennis games, Pete served as a member of the Board of Directors for five years and had a profound influence on the club. He's also earned the reputation of "Eagle Eye" as he proofreads the quarterly newsletter for the staff. Like so many of the members of BTC, he's always available if you need him.

Pete readily admits, "This club is the center of my life." Great people like Pete Sullivan help make Balboa Tennis Club a wonderful place to hang out and enjoy the sport of a lifetime.

# **Bench Project Update**

The club is over halfway home on the bench project. 26 benches have been sold with 24 to go. The price of a bench has risen slightly to \$650 due to increased shipping costs. Nonetheless, this is still a bargain when you consider the value.

Many people who purchased benches are getting very creative with their plaques. The photo below represents a couple that met at Balboa Tennis Club and wanted to remember this special day. Others



dedicated benches to family members, two great dogs and even "Padre Fans Only." Have fun with this unique aspect of the bench project and purchase your personalized bench soon. Let's make this a club mission to replace all 50 benches by 2007.

Here is a list of the first 26 bench donors. Thank you for your generosity.

Brad Hasper
Rene Gregorio
Fran and Lee Wakefield
San Diego Tennis Federation
Armin Afsahi
Jimmy Graves
Robin Rodger
Ron Celeste
Marion and Bill Hinchy
Beckey Smiser
Roz King
TadYamaguchi
Kathleen and Martin Weinstein

Earl and Dorothy Miller Ken Miller Shirley Pereira Barry Farwell Hazel Higgins CD Brewer Roberto Ancira Barbara Coxon Mark Stevens Colleen Witterschein Guy Dante Shirley Kessler Kevin Mallory

# The Director's Report

by Colleen Clery Ferrell



After completing my first year on the job, I'm happy to report that it's been a great experience. I'm still learning members' names, working on my accounting skills, becoming very educated on public facility management and relishing the opportunity to work in a tennis environment. Thanks to all the members and board of directors who have made me feel so welcome.

I'm pleased to report that all the lights on the courts for evening play are working. If you happen to notice any lights out in the future, stop by the reservations desk and report the information to the clerk. To accommodate the evening challenge court, the reservation attendant will be staying until 9:00 p.m. to ensure continuous play.

In an effort to be more environmentally conscientious, the club management encourages all of you to bring your own water bottles. We are in the process of eliminating the styrofoam cups by the ice machine and replacing them with a biodegradable cup.

Last but not least, please keep in mind that leagues and the Monday Morning Welcome Group are the only members able to reserve more than one court at a time per day. Also, be sure to return all unused courts to the Reservation Desk so the next person on the waiting list can claim the court. Thank you for your support and cooperation.



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

www.balboatennis.com

# Get Involved — Join the BTC Board of Directors

Have you ever considered joining the BTC Board of Directors? This is a great way for your voice and opinions to be heard. Board members serve two-year terms, which are staggered, so each year there are five openings. Petitions to join the board are available at the reservation desk or on line at www.balboatennis.com, beginning September 1. Anyone interested in joining the board needs to collect 40 signatures from BTC Members recommending him or her for the board. Petitions must be turned in to the reservations desk by October 15. Once all the petitions are in, an election will be held if there are more than five applicants. The new term begins in January.

# Annual Senior Olympics Coming Sept. 11-13

By Barbara Gregario

The Annual Senior Olympic Tennis Tournament will be held at Balboa Tennis Club, Sept. 11-13, Monday

Wednesday. Participants start at age 50 in five year increments with each division. The oldest participant last year was 88 years young!!!

Singles, doubles and mixed doubles are held for all age groups. Medal winners are eligible to go to the State Championships. Nationals are held on alternate years for State Winners. Early entrants get a free kick-off dinner at the Hall of Champions. All participants receive a t-shirt and goody bag. The cost to register is \$35 with a \$5 per event fee. Entry forms are available at the BTC Registration Desk, on line at www.sdseniorgames.org or call the Senior Games office at 619-226-1344. This is a great opportunity to meet other senior players, have fun and test your skills. BTC Board Member Barbara Gregorio will be spearheading the registration desk.

### **Business Directory Information**

BUSINESS NAME	
WORK SPECIALTY	
ADDRESS	
CITY/ST/ZIP	
PHONE —	
EMAIL —	

If you would like to be included in the club referral database, fill out the form above and leave at the reservation desk or e-mail your information to Colleen at director@balboatennis.com.

#### **A NEW KITCHEN**

Dwight Van Slyke

Kitchen & Bath Design

Design and installation of beautiful new kitchens and baths with unparalleled personal service.

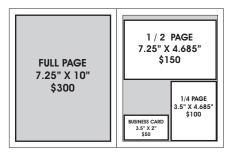
Showroom by Appointment: 2971 Beech Street San Diego, CA 92102 619.239.2750 www.anewkitchen.com

> Van Slyke Construction, Inc. General Contractors License # 881247



# Business Advertising Space Available

Beginning with the August issue of Center Court, display advertising is being accepted in our newsletter. This is an excellent opportunity to market your business products and services to the 1,500 members of Balboa Tennis Club. At the same time, your advertising dollars will help to support our wonderful tennis facility and all of the programs and events provided by the club. Please contact Colleen if you are interested in purchasing an ad for your business. The newsletter staff will be glad to help you compose your ad, or we can use your existing artwork or business card if available. Rates for advertisement are as follows:



### **BTC Business Fishbowl**

There is a fishbowl at the reservation desk for members to drop a business card. Each quarter a new business card will be chosen for a complimentary ad in the next newsletter. The club would like to promote your business so please participate by dropping a card.

## **BTC Business Directory**

The BTC Business Directory is beginning to build. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the club is a great avenue to network with your fellow members. Below is a list of those members who sent information to be published.

C. I. Perry

#### **Perry Properties Real Estate**

3412 Herman Ave. #A
San Diego, CA 92104 (North Park Area)
760-802-2884
cj@perrypropertiesre.com
Licensed broker and agent for residential

Licensed broker and agent for residential real estate and mortgages

Bill Bauer

#### **Prepaid Legal Services**

619-962-6720

www.prepaidlegal.com/hub/bauer\_wr

Dali Collins, Broker

Eureka Realty
5694 Mission Center Rd. #445
San Diego, CA 92108
858-715-1182 Business
858-715-1183 Fax
dali@eureka-realty.com
www.eureka-realty.com

Liam Dunfey, M.A. University Advisors: Admission Specialists

2825 3rd Avenue #205 San Diego, CA 92103 619-865-1498 www.admissionspecialists.com Liam@Admissionspecialist.com

Angela Felice

#### **Curves Mission Valley Promenade**

Women's Gym. First 100 members get 66% off service fee 8555 Station Village Lane #D San Diego, CA 92108 619-688-2671 angela@curvespromenade.com

Charles Hoskowicz, REALTOR **Keller Williams Realty** 1500 State Street/ Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92101 619-665-4030 www.sandiegrealtyinfo.com choskowicz@hotmail.com

\*If you would like to be added to the Business Directory, fill out the form above and leave it at the reservation desk or e-mail director@balboatennis.com

# San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame Dinner

On Saturday, August 26th, ten of the most influential people in the history of San Diego tennis will be enshrined into the San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame. Their achievements will be chronicled with memorabilia displayed in those beautiful cases, which are located in our clubhouse. Come enjoy a gourmet dinner with table seating.

The induction ceremony is at 4:00 p.m. and the banquet will follow the ceremony. Make your reservations online at www.sandiegotennis.com or drop off your check at the reservations desk. The cost is \$15.00 per person.

## **Club Rosters**

The 2006 Club Roster is now available for pickup at the reservation desk. Stop by the desk and sign your name so we can make sure only one roster is issued per member. Additional rosters are available for \$5. If there are any roster changes or updates, send an e-mail to the director or let the reservation clerk know as regular roster updates will be published in the quarterly newsletter. Here is the only change received so far.

Mary Lou Garcia P.O. Box 180915 Coronado, CA 92178

# **Tennis Tip**

#### Provided by Mimi Loucks

Former #1 singles & doubles player for Clemson University. Nationally Ranked; Selected 4 consecutive years to All Atlantic Coast Conference Team; Team Captain BTC 5.0 team heading to Sectional Play in Los Angeles



### Hit Through Your Two-Handed Backhand

You've heard it many times. In order to gain more control and power on your two-handed backhand you have to hit through the ball. How come the more you try to hit all the way through, the more your backhand pops up like a fly ball? Next time this happens, try to visualize a table on the side of you with three water glasses on top. Now visualize stepping into the ball and knocking off all three water glasses with your racket. If your backhand continues to pop up, most likely you are only hitting one water glass off the table.

## **Club Safety**

One beautiful aspect of Balboa Tennis Club is the openness created by this facility being located in the center of San Diego's crown jewel Balboa Park. Nonetheless, this open facility also invites all types of people to freely walk around the club. Please keep your eyes open for any suspicious persons who might be lurking around the club or in the

parking lot, as we've had some incidents lately around the club creating a need for more awareness. The clubhouse is for members only and if non-members are using the locker rooms or hanging out, please notify the reservation clerk immediately and he will take the necessary action.

## **BTC Club Suggestion Box**

There is a locked suggestion box located in the clubhouse next to the new television cabinet. To ensure your voice is heard, please write your suggestions down, date them and drop the ideas in the box. Only board members have access to this box and during each monthly board meeting, the suggestions will be read.

For example, Herb Bistrow suggested last month that a scorecard be permanently placed on the challenge court. This way, people who are waiting to challenge or just watching the set will know what the score is on the court. Great suggestion Herb!!!

Van Gillespie also made an excellent suggestion, which was approved by the board. Here is the new addition to the challenge court rules. If one single challenger is waiting for the challenge court at the completion of the set, he or she must play with the next single challenger in line rather than taking a partner from the losing team coming off the court. This rule will help keep new players moving onto the challenge court.



## 77th Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open Results

#### Men's Open Singles

Thomas Liversage def. Ini Ghidirmic 6-4,7-5

#### Women's Open Singles

Stephanie Herz def. Shabnam Eslami 6-0,6-1

#### Men's Open Doubles

Chanfreau/Redondo def. Meister/Rubens 6-2,7-5

#### **Women's Open Doubles**

Eslami/Eslami def. Ainslie Murray/Cadua 6-3,7-5

#### **Mixed Open Doubles**

Griffin/Yang def. Jones/Jones 4-6,7-5,6-2

#### Men's 35 Singles

Leo Bravo def. Nelson Alapi 6-3,2-6,6-2

#### Men's 40 Singles

Manuel Ortiz def. Glenn Stephan 6-3,6-4

#### Men's 45 Singles

Alexander Magtanong def. Curtis Cochran 7-6,6-3

#### Men's 50 Singles

John Flowers def. Jerry Naumann 6-4,6-4

#### Men's 55 Singles

Mario Cernousek def. Byron Smith 6-1,3-6,6-4

#### Men's 60 Singles

Leland Housman def. Richard Ortiz 6-1,7-5

#### Men's 65 Singles

Jack Bartroff def. Jerry Singer 6-3, 6-4

#### Men's 70 Singles

Robert Perry def. Donald Albares 6-7,6-3,6-0

#### Men's 75 Singles

Emilio Martinez-De Pison def. Thomas Mullen 6-1,6-3

#### Men's 80 Singles

William Nyhan def. James Watters 6-0,4-6,6-4

#### Women's 35 Singles

Stephanie Ide def. Hillary Park 6-0,6-1

#### Women's 45 Singles

Joan Barnes def. Nancy Abler-Sanchez 6-4,6-4

#### Women's 50 Singles

Susan Davis def. Maureen Redondo 6-3,6-2

#### Women's 55 Singles

Crys Ren def. Ellen Furman 6-1,6-0

#### Women's 70 Singles

Dorothy Karp def. Mary Lou Harris 6-7,6-4,6-4

#### Women's 75 Singles

Janet Hubbard def. Wakefield 2-6,6-4,6-4

#### Women's 45 Doubles

Hillier/Linder def. Davis/Redondo 6-1,6-1

#### Men's 40 Doubles

Bushnell/Gill def. Moore/Roybal 6-2,6-4

#### Men's 50 Doubles

Naumann/Ofner def. Matlock/Monahan 6-2,7-5

#### Men's 55 Doubles

Peacock/Upton def. Conaway/Knight 6-1,6-4

#### Men's 60 Doubles

Ortiz/Zimmitti def. Biddle/Seno 6-3,6-3

#### Men's 70 Doubles

Neuman/Snyder def. Altshuler/Bacon 6-0,6-2

#### **Father-Son Doubles**

Molden/Molden def Atri/Atri 6-1,6-4

#### **Father-Daughter Doubles**

Alexander/Alexander def. Pickett/Pickett 6-3,6-2

#### NTRP Men's 3.0 Singles

Michael Gonzalez def. Stacy Tuers 6-1,6-2

#### NTRP Men's 3.5 Singles

Manuel Ortiz def. Robert Moore 6-2,7-5

#### NTRP Men's 4.0 Singles

Louis Corradi def. Stephan Derkash 6-4,6-0

#### NTRP Men's 4.5 Singles

Londo Whittaker def. Leonard Trinh 6-4,7-5

#### NTRP Men's 5.0 Singles

Richard Castiglia def. Justin Marr 6-4,6-1

#### NTRP Men's 5.5 Singles

Christopher Means def. York Cheng 6-1,6-2

#### NTRP Women's 3.0 Singles

Sonia Zepeda def. Gloria Pritchett def (ns)

#### NTRP Women's 3.5 Singles

Mariko Atoji def. Mariles Valencia 6-4,6-3

#### NTRP Women's 4.0 Singles

Joyce Baker def. Carol Donahue 6-3,7-6

#### NTRP Women's 4.5 Singles

Robyn Leong def. Sunny Kim 6-4,6-3

#### NTRP Men's 3.5 Doubles

TIRP Men's 3.5 Doubles

## Cardenas/Ortiz def. Gniady/Monreal 5-7,6-3,6-4 NTRP Men's 4.5 Doubles

Graves/Wong def. Herrera/Trinh 6-4,6-1

#### NTRP Men's 5.5 Doubles

Cheng/Means def. Le/Vo 6-3,6-4

#### NTRP Women's 4.5 Doubles

Goldcamp/Howell def. Slome/Solloa 4-6,6-4,7-5

#### NTRP Women's 5.5 Doubles

Abe/Baran def. Gree/Hillier 7-5,6-2

#### NTRP Mixed 3.5 Doubles

Murray/Murray def. Endoso/Nguyen 6-3,6-1

#### NTRP Mixed 4.5 Doubles

Rodriguez/Smalling def. Hasper/Jung 6-4,7-5

#### NTRP Mixed 5.5 Doubles

Jaehnig/Jaehnig def Fukami/Hagiwara 5-7,6-4,6-1

## **Calendar of Events**

August			
J	1-4 15 19 26 25-27, Sept 2-4	BALBOA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS BTC BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M. FREE TENNIS CLINIC 3:00 – 4:30 P.M. HALL OF FAME CEREMONY & DINNER 4:00 P.M. 78 <sup>TH</sup> SD DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS.	
September			
·	11-14 16 19 22-24; 29-OCT. 1	SENIOR OLYMPICS 12 A.M. – 5:00 P.M CHARGERS SEASON KICKOFF SOCIAL 3:00 TENNIS, 5:00 FOOD BTC BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M. METROPOLITAN CHAMPIONSHIPS	
October			
	17 21	BTC BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M. FREE TENNIS CLINIC 3:00 – 4:30 P.M.	
November			
	18 21	TURKEY SHOOT SOCIAL - 3:00P.M. TENNIS; FOOD 5:00 P.M. BTC BOARD MEETING - 7:00 P.M.	



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**Dated material** 

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