



# Center Court

MAY 2007

## USTA National Open Prize Money On The Rise

In addition to receiving a wild card entry into a USTA Professional Circuit Tournament, winners and finalists who participate in the upcoming National Open will also be rewarded with increased prize money. The tournament will run June 11-17 at Balboa Tennis Club. Participants include top amateur, college and touring pros trying to regain momentum for the satellite tournaments. A consolation tournament will be played concurrently. Come on out and check out the fast paced action at the National Open this year.



## 7th ANNUAL TENNIS FEST SET FOR SUNDAY MAY 6TH

If you've ever been to Tennis Fest, you know what a great event this Sunday will be from 12:00-4:00 p.m. This year's massive gathering promises to surpass last year when over 1000 tennis enthusiasts ventured out to BTC to enjoy free clinics, tennis exhibitions and on court prizes. Dozens of USPTA certified pros will be offering clinics for players of all skill levels, even for those people who have never held a racquet. The youngsters will have their own courts with games, prizes and an exhibition. There's a place for everyone at this year's event.

Tennis Fest is presented by the San Diego District Tennis Association. It's a huge party dedicated to the great game of tennis. There's no other tennis gathering similar to this one in the country. All the big names in equipment will be represented, including Wilson, Head, Pro Penn, Dunlop and Babalot, along with local company sponsors such as Urban Body, the Active Network, Kashi, CH Court Tech, Racket Bracket and Vitamin Water. There will be music and various trade booths set up to feature the latest and the greatest in the tennis world. Make some time in your busy schedules to check out Tennis Fest this Sunday.



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## Congratulations Roz and Fran

Long time members Roz King and Fran Wakefield recently received awards at the 2007 Southern California Awards Banquet.

Roz was appointed to the National Committee of Adult and Senior Competition. She will serve as Circuit Chair for the Women's 40 Division. Fran was also appointed Circuit Chair and she will serve on the 80's committee. Fran also received the 2007 Community Service Award for all of Southern



California.

Congratulations to both of these ladies for their contributions to tennis at our club and all of Southern California.

# The President Speaks...

by Robin Rodger

What an exciting year this has been so far. Our new board members hit the ground running and have been very active and willing to help with energy, time and ideas. That inspires and reenergizes those of us who have been members for up to 8 years.



I want to thank all of you who turned in your forms and provided your input concerning four different issues the board was considering. Your comments were very informative and have helped us as we move forward. The ball separators between court 7 and 8 had a lot of positive input as well as a few negative comments. We are moving forward to put permanent netting on the poles and to add ball screens between courts 9 and 10. The cost is higher than originally thought and there are a couple of technical difficulties on implementation of netting on the back courts.

The board recommended that a meeting be held for a forum type discussion on the league issue of adding a third "A" team from January through mid April. This meeting will be held on May 9 at 7:00pm in the BTC clubhouse. I think it is important for all interested parties to be there so that meaningful discussion can take place with all viewpoints in the same room at the same time. It might take more than one meeting to come to a conclusion, but I know that we can do it. We are all interested in playing competitive tennis, in supporting each other as we improve our games, in looking at the needs of all our members and in the total support of the sport we all love.

We have several items on our agenda that need money and our budget is limited. The board voted to purchase a color laser printer for Colleen to increase her abilities and maximize her efficiency. A new reservation desk was installed that is longer and much more attractive. New flower pots were added to our front entrance. We have also approved resurfacing the floor in the men's restroom and are awaiting bids. A new cover will be purchased for the pad in the women's restroom and will have a zipper to allow for easy cleaning. We have voted to purchase a Marker Board that would be placed in the center of the walkway between courts 8 and 9 and have obtained city approval. This would allow us to keep members informed of upcoming events in a timely manner without having to use paper banners.

The bleachers between courts 6 and 7 have been removed and given back to the city. We tried to put them outside of courts 1 and 11 to allow better tournament viewing at that end of the courts. This turned out to be too costly, and would have required ADA access which would have been impossible to accomplish. We felt that the bleachers could be put to better use in another facility in the city. Benches will be added to courts 6 and 7.

Our stadium will be getting a facelift from the company that resur-

See *The President Speaks* continued page 3



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

[www.balboatennis.com](http://www.balboatennis.com)

*President*

Robin Rodger

*Vice President*

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Don Goyette

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Bob Gates

Barbara Gregorio

Andy Katz

Linda Long

John Rodriguez

Dwight Van Slyke

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 President Speaks

*Continued from page 2*

faced our courts last year. CH Court Tech will be adding netting around the inside of our stadium court at their expense. This is similar to the netting you see on television when you watch the Davis Cup matches. It will have the company logo as well as the BTC logo and will cover up the unsightly green wall. Court Tech would like to help us make our stadium court the premier stadium court in the San Diego area. We look forward to working with them to accomplish this goal.

Tournament t-shirts were approved for the 3 big tournaments this year. The board and Colleen have been very successful in getting sponsors. A sponsor pays \$500 to have their name on our shirts, entry forms and on our web site for the National Jr. Tournament, the BTC Open and the Metro. This will defray the cost and get BTC's name out in the community. We can still use sponsors. If you know anyone who is interested please contact Colleen. It is a lot of bang for their buck. For \$500, you reach at least 3000 people. Colleen has a sheet explaining sponsorship and containing pertinent facts about the Balboa Tennis Club.

Ed Barron is moving to Louisiana and has put the Tennis Café on the market with a company called Veld. Any proposed sale is subject to board approval. We all wish Ed and Penny well and the board thanks them for their time and energy spent on the Tennis Café to bring our members a variety of food that tastes good and is healthy.

It is a busy year for BTC and there is plenty of room for individ-

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE PRO

I am so excited to have the opportunity to come back to Balboa Tennis Club and teach tennis! I have played competitive tennis for 25 years of my life. I played my first junior tournament at Balboa Tennis Club when I was 10 years old. A substantial part of my junior tennis career took place on the courts of Balboa Tennis Club. I have great memories here at BTC and am honored to now come full circle and teach this great game of tennis at the best club in San Diego.



*Mimi Loucks*

I enjoy encouraging tennis players to be the best player they can be. I specialize in stroke technique as well as mental toughness. I am now available for private, semi-private and group lessons. Let me help you reach your tennis goals. Call the Pro Shop at 619-291-5248 or direct on my cell at 619-252-2434 to arrange a lesson.

### BIOGRAPHY

- ★ *Nationally ranked junior player top 50 singles, #5 doubles (18 & under)*
- ★ *Full scholarship player for Clemson University, played #1 singles and #1 doubles, All ACC Conference Team 1989-1992*
- ★ *Ranked nationally in NCAA Division 1 Singles and Doubles*

## Tennis Tip From Mimi

Are you having problems hitting your serve over the net? If so, you might be bringing your tossing arm down too soon. When serving, your body needs to be in a tall upright position upon impact of the ball. After the toss, your tossing arm must remain up as long as possible until you hit the ball. If you bring your tossing arm down too soon, your body will become off balance and gravity will pull your body downward. If your body is falling downward, so will your serve, and thus the serve goes in to the net. Keeping your tossing arm up will allow you the ability to reach up on the serve and keep your body balanced correctly.

ual involvement. If you have any ideas or suggestions, there are forms for this purpose at the reservation desk and there is a member suggestion box in the clubhouse as well. We appreciate your input and work very hard to listen to all ideas. If you include your name and phone number, we can personally respond to your suggestion or complaint.

As you can see, Balboa's Board of Directors deals with many issues at the same time. Since we are a group of volunteers, it takes time to solve some of the complex issues that we face. We are a persistent group and work in concert to accomplish a variety of goals. We all love BTC and the Balboa Park area and we are working to make it all that it can be.

# The Director's Report

by Colleen Clery Ferrell



I'm proud to announce that every upright bench at the club has been sold. There are still three flat benches on the lower courts that need sponsors and are available for a reduced rate. Let me know if you're interested. Thank you to all the members who supported the bench project.

When I was hired as Director in 2005, little did I know that I'd be involved in so many first aid situations. The abundance of 911 calls in the last few months has really pointed out the necessity of having contact information on file. Some of the members who join are reluctant to give out any unnecessary personal data. In this age of stolen identity, I can understand the reluctance to elicit information to a certain extent. Please understand that when you join or renew, you may request that your personal information not be placed in the Member Directory, yet please offer some type of contact in case of an emergency.

I have a favor to ask of everyone. Please take responsibility for the court you've reserved. Aside from weeks when we do membership checks, one

person is allowed to come to the desk to pick up the court ticket. I would like this one designated person to make sure that their partners on the court are all members. There's no reason for non-members to be playing for free while everyone else on the court is keeping up with their dues.

A member asked me if I would reiterate the policy for taking over a court. Wait until the players have finished their point before walking on to a court. Also, remember to close the gate behind as you enter the court. This is common court courtesy that we all need to follow.

Lastly, tournament season is upon us. The courts will be busy on the weekends during the season. Perhaps this is the year that you decide to sign up and test your skills in one of the upcoming events. If not as a player, then support the tournaments by coming to the club and checking out the action. This summer will be busy and fun as always at America's Finest Public Facility, **Balboa Tennis Club!!!**

## Thank you to everyone who donated to the BTC Bench Drive. A celebration of the Bench Drive Completion will be forthcoming.

Brad Hasper  
Ken Miller  
SD Tennis Federation  
Armin Afsahi  
Jimmy Graves

Robin Rodger  
Ron Celeste  
Marion and Bill Hinchy  
Becky Smiser  
Roz King

Tad Yamaguchi  
Kevin Mallery  
Earl and Dorothy Miller  
Fran and Lee Wakefield  
Barry Farwell  
Hazel Higgins  
CD Brewer  
Roberto Ancira  
Barbara Coxon  
Mark Stevens  
Susan Wellersdieck  
Shirley Pereira  
Julie Yrineo  
Guy Dante  
Shirley Kessler  
Ann Russ  
Don Goyette  
Jim April  
Yoko Anderson  
Kathy and Marty  
Weinstein  
Colleen Witterschein  
CT Martin

Bob Bachman Family  
and Friends  
Joan Rice  
Todd Osborn  
Carol Jory  
Tom Monahan  
Steve Serna  
Daryll Rawls  
Geoff Griffin  
Chaz Griffin  
Jack Griffin  
Jeanne and David Gill  
Dwight Van Slyke  
Renee Gregorio  
Lupita Pantoja Curiel  
Peter Conneely  
Colleen Clery Ferrell  
Stuart Robinson  
Hazel Higgins  
Fred and Cathy Circo  
Nancy O'Neal  
Jim and Melinda  
Murray

George Tsicoulis  
Julie Anderson  
Jean Davis  
Mary Dersam  
Felicity Dobbins  
Karen Gaar  
Pat Giebink  
Diane Hardy  
Valeria Heckler  
Susie Johnson  
Gail Jordan  
Nancy Kibbey  
Jean Longstaff  
Pat Newman  
Linda Plues  
Joan Rice  
Alice Robbins  
Karen Ruiz  
Fran Sparks  
Judi Todd  
Alma Treece  
Sue Wilson



A group of 21 women, spearheaded by Joan Rice, contributed to one of the benches on court #12. To celebrate their purchase, the women gathered on April 19<sup>th</sup> for a round robin competition.

## BTC MEMBERS Business Directory

Kenny Seo  
Manalo Realty, Inc.  
2437 Senton St. Suite A  
Chula Vista, CA 91915  
Office 619-585-8008 ext. 136  
Cell 619-410-1841  
[www.sorianogroup.net](http://www.sorianogroup.net)  
Kenny@manalorealty.com

Sabina Wong  
Blissful Paws  
Pet Sitting and Walking  
619-972-7601  
619-280-7600  
[Sabina@blissfulpaws.com](mailto:Sabina@blissfulpaws.com)  
[www.blissfulpaws.com](http://www.blissfulpaws.com)

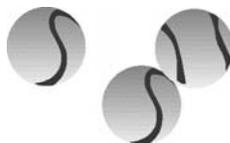
Robert M. Ancira  
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4565 Ruffner Street, Suite 211  
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Toll Free 888-478-0008  
Phone 858-278-0090  
Fax 858-278-8076  
[www.graphicinterfaces.net](http://www.graphicinterfaces.net)

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3951 Idaho St., Suite #4  
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[joanntax@gmail.com](mailto:joanntax@gmail.com)

Christy Erb  
Golf Instructor  
Bonita Golf Club  
5540 Sweetwater Rd.  
Bonita, CA 91902  
858-254-6591  
[erbiel@juno.com](mailto:erbiel@juno.com)

Angela Felice  
Curves Mission Valley Promenade  
Women's Gym.  
*First 100 members get 66% off the service fee*  
8555 Station Village Lane #D  
San Diego, CA 92108  
619-688-2671  
[angela@curvespromenade.com](mailto:angela@curvespromenade.com)

Bill Bauer  
Prepaid Legal Services  
619-962-6720  
[www.prepaidlegal.com/hub/bauer\\_wr](http://www.prepaidlegal.com/hub/bauer_wr)



## League Update

The USTA Senior and Super Senior Leagues will begin soon. Rosters are due June 10. Play runs July through August. To qualify for the Senior league, the player must be born in 1957 or earlier. To qualify for Super Seniors, the player must be born in 1947 or earlier. A captain's meeting will take place Tuesday, May 8th at 1:00 p.m. at the San Dieguito Tennis Club in Encinitas. If you would like to start a team or become part of one, contact Leslie Waite at 858-755-8110. For additional league information, consult the BTC website at [www.balboatennis.com](http://www.balboatennis.com) and click on leagues.

The Scripps Invitational League for Ladies A begins in September and is played on Thursday morning. The deadline to enter is August 1. The Friday Ladies A, BB, B and C league also begins in September with rosters due August 1 as well.

If you're involved in league play at BTC, please attend the May 9th League Meeting in the clubhouse. This will be an informal gathering to discuss all aspects of league play at Balboa Tennis Club.

Congratulations to Robin Rodger's and Masako Beppu's A Teams. They finished one and two respectively in the San Diego Winter league.

## Friendly Bridge Players Wanted



Contact Mary Cormier at 619-286-9118, if you're interested in joining the bridge group, which gathers regularly in the clubhouse. The group meets Tuesday through Friday. All players are welcome.

## Business Directory Information Form

If you would like to be added to the BTC Business Directory, fill out the form below and leave at the reservation desk or e-mail [director@balboatennis.com](mailto:director@balboatennis.com)

BUSINESS NAME \_\_\_\_\_

WORK SPECIALTY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ST/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

# MARION HARLAN MEMBER PROFILE

Marion Harlan joined BTC in 1990 after moving to San Diego from Tucson. She wanted to give her loving husband Gale a special present for his birthday so she signed them both up to become members. For years, Marion enjoyed the great game of tennis as a social and competitive player, even serving as captain of the BB Team.

In 2004, Marian began experiencing back pain. For those who love the game of tennis, pain is a challenge, yet no reason to stop playing. She tried therapy, but no relief could be found. Her doctor ordered an MRI. After the results came in, the doctor wanted to see Marian immediately, which in her mind, was “not a good sign.” The doctor informed her that the entire cavity was a tumor. Marian elected to undergo chemotherapy and radiation in hope of eradicating the tumor. She continued to play tennis during this time period despite treatments.

In 2006 the tumor grew and the pain worsened. In her words, “I never had a choice,” as the doctor recommended surgery to remove her entire leg, hip and pelvis. The 3 1/2 hour surgery, called a hemipelvectomy rattled the minds of family and friends, yet Marian maintained an inner faith and confidence in her plight. “I can't say it wasn't frightening,” she



said, “but I never cried. I was just hoping to wake up after the surgery.”

Marian came through the surgery well with the support of a great team of doctors, family, friends and a “very handsome anesthesiologist!” To add on to a famous phrase from Michael Jordan, Marian loudly proclaimed, “I no longer have a leg, but I'M BACK!!!” She was recently fitted for a prosthesis and, in keeping with the great sense of humor that helped her through this

trauma, Marian says, “I keep my leg in the closet now.”

Nowadays, Marian maintains a busy lifestyle with a positive upbeat attitude. She does needlepoint and knitting in her free time, in addition to reading trashy novels and spy stories. She still comes out to BTC to watch her loving husband Gale play tennis and to play cards in the clubhouse. Gale and Marian continue to travel on a regular basis, yet only in the United States because the accommodations for the handicapped are so much better. Gale summarizes what so many people say about Marian. “She's an inspiration.”

Marian is making the most of the situation by staying busy and enjoying life. “I'm just happy to be able to do what I can,” she says as she wheels off to get ready for a trip to Texas.

## BTC Recognition Awards

A special thank you to Robyn Leong for donating office supplies to the club.

Thank you to Linda Long, Reggie Gaines and Peter Conneely for assisting in the organization of the David Ross Poetry Night.



## Reservation Desk Upgrade

*BTC members Miki Shintani and Herb Bistrow standing next to new and improved reservations desk.*

# 78<sup>th</sup> Balboa Open Highlights BTC History

The 78<sup>th</sup> Maureen Connolly Brinker Balboa Open starts July 20-22 and concludes the weekend of July 27-29. This historical tournament, whose major sponsor is the Maureen Connolly Brinker Family, is the largest tournament held at

BTC in terms of participants. Since the great "Little Mo" grew up in North Park and made such an indelible mark in women's tennis by winning the US Open and Wimbledon three times, it is truly an honor to carry on her legacy. A walk by our stadium court, which is dedicated to Maureen Connolly and seeing her memorabilia in the clubhouse elicits thoughts of her greatness right here on the grounds of Balboa Tennis Club. So get your entries in for the tournament early and work hard to be the best you can be, just like Maureen Connolly did in her day.

## A Look Back...



*Photo of David Bushnell and David Gill. Both players competed in the juniors at 14 years of age and are still playing Balboa Tennis Tournaments 30 years later.*

## Thank You BTC Staff

The happy staff at BTC gathered for their quarterly staff meeting. Each one is dedicated to providing excellent service for Balboa Tennis Club members and guests. Combined, they have over 20 years experience at BTC. This type of loyalty is treasured in the Health Club Industry. Thank you BTC Staff and keep up the good work.



*Balboa Tennis Club Staff: Pictured in the first row is Alex Djordjevic and George Tsicoulis; the back row Gil Mahaney, Don Green and Sean Ortuno.*



APRIL, 2007

## Spring Championship Results

### Men's 3.0 Singles

Kerry George def. Alastair McLeod

### Men's 3.5 Singles

Doru Tifue def. Drew Mills 6-2,7-5

### Men's 4.5 Singles

Seth Makechnie def. Gabriel Ibarra 6-3,6-4

### Men's 5.5 Singles

Vince Riveroll def. Jorge Pacheco 6-1,7-6

### Men's 55 Singles

Ron Seno- Winner, Brad Hasper - Finalist

### Women's 4.5 Singles

Crys Ren def. Annette Howell 6-0,6-1

### Women's 45 Singles

Nancy Sanchez def. Mary Alice Hillier 6-4,6-3

### Men's 3.5 Doubles

K Benigued/R Voces - Winner  
W. Contreras/D. Tifue - Finalist

### Men's 4.5 Doubles

Ooms/ Ward def. Broderick/ McDonough  
6-3,3-6,6-2

### Men's 5.5 Doubles

T. Farin/T. Ortuno def. M. Rehe/S. Seggerman

### Women's 4.5 Doubles

M. Beppu/M.A. Hillier def. A.Goldcamp/A.  
Howell 6-1,6-0

### Women's 5.5 Doubles

M. Loucks/M. Murray - Winner  
C.Clery Ferrell/M. Nunez - Finalist

### Mixed 3.5 Doubles

Loucks /Shintani - Winners  
Cindi & Bruce Boogaards - Finalist

### Mixed 4.5 Doubles

J. Sperrazzo/M.A. Hillier def.  
M. Araceli/G. Ibarra 6-3,6-4

### Mixed 5.5 Doubles

P. Seggerman/S. Seggerman - Winner  
C. Clery Ferrell/G. Griffin - Finalist

# Calendar of Events

## May

- 6 TENNIS FEST 2007, 12:00 - 4:00pm
- 15 BTC BOARD MEETING - 7:00 P.M.
- 19-20 HENDRICKSON MEMORIAL WHEELCHAIR TOURNAMENT

## June

- 2 FREE TENNIS CLINIC 3:00 – 4:00 P.M.
- 11-17 USTA NATIONAL OPEN HARDCOURT CHAMPIONSHIPS
- 19 BTC BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M.
- 30-July 2 S.D. TENNIS FEDERATION SAN DIEGO OPEN

## July

- 17 BTC BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M.
- 20-22, 27-29 77<sup>TH</sup> MAUREEN CONNOLLY BRINKER BTC OPEN
- 30 - Aug. 3 BALBOA JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

## August

- 18 FREE TENNIS CLINIC 3:00 – 4:00 P.M.
- 21 BTC BOARD MEETING – 7:00 P.M.
- 24-26, Sept 1-3 78<sup>TH</sup> SD DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS



# Center Court

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**Balboa Tennis Club**  
 2221 Morley Field Dr.  
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Dated material

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