

EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!

STPC named NWTA 1993 Organization of the Year!

The Northwestern Tennis Association honored the Senior Tennis Players Club with its Organization of the Year award for 1993. See John Stecklein's Baseline column, page 2.

Your 1994 Membership is Due

Please send your membership renewal in right away! If we don't receive your renewal form by **January 20, 1994**, your name will be removed from the mailing list and you won't get the *Senior Tennis Times* any more. Also, you won't be listed in the Membership Roster for 1994. The renewal form appeared in the November edition of the *Times*.

Send your renewal form to Bernice Hanson. The address is:

Bernice Hanson
120 Windsor Court
New Brighton, MN 55112

If you no longer have your renewal form, you can get another from Bernice. Call her at 633-3276. **We want you in the Club, so send in that form now!**

**Renew
Now!**



BASELINE

BY JOHN STECKLEIN,
STPC PRESIDENT

I have just received word that the Senior Tennis Players Club has been selected as the 1993 NWT A Organization of the Year. At the November board meeting, the Board authorized me to submit our Club as a candidate for this award.

The award will be accepted by me at the January 15 Annual Awards Luncheon at the Decathlon Club. Our sincere thanks go to the NWT A for this honor. In addition to receiving this award, STPC may be a candidate for the USTA's Organization of the Year award.

It is very gratifying to receive this award because it is an acknowledgment of the wonderful, conscientious work of the many volunteers who plan, organize, supervise, and carry out the various activities and events for our members, as well as provide services to other tennis groups. We can be justly proud of what has been accomplished in barely ten years of existence! Congratulations!!

Reports are that all who attended the Holiday Dinner Dance had a very nice evening, enjoying the delicious food, the excellent entertainment and the danceable band music. Special commendations go to Marilyn Thorne and her effective committee for a thoroughly delightful evening.

On the obverse side, however, is the fact that attendance was below expectations, causing one of our infrequent special event deficits. No blame is intended or should be directed at anyone for this shortfall. Usually, such events break even or make a small profit. Was this a singular aberration, or are there detractions that we should know about that might

affect the planning of future events?

It would be useful to know what factors might have influenced members to decide not to attend. Or, if you attended but have some idea what those factors might be, it would be helpful if you called Marilyn Thorne (471-9813) or Sue Larson (929-4673). Obviously, the most useful reasons are those that might be under the control of the planners. Was it the date, the cost, the nature of the event, or something else that contributed to the lower than expected attendance? Your feedback is appreciated.

All nominees for Board Membership on hand by December 31, 1993 are being considered by the Nominations Committee. From this list a slate will be presented to the Board for the election of eight new members. The Board will then elect officers from the combined list of new and old members at its February meeting. The new officers should be announced in the March newsletter.

Special thanks go to Roger Boyer for putting on his annual Christmas Clinic, replete with advice, drills and prizes. The December 16 event was well-attended, as usual. If you missed this one, watch for the next year's. For those who do not know Roger, he is the Prince Company representative for this region. His generosity is much appreciated.

Roger made a couple of general points that I think are worth repeating. He says that tennis popularity is on a flat plane at the present time and we should do all we can to encourage increased interest in the game. He suggests that we can influence the amount of tennis on TV by writing to the networks and asking for more TV

coverage. He also believes that many tennis players are more interested in doubles matches than singles, and that we should tell the networks this. He also encourages us to support the Team Tennis format that is struggling to get going. He contends that an audience gets more for its money with Team Tennis, because it gets to watch men's and women's singles, men's and women's doubles, and mixed doubles, all for one price.

I can't close without drawing your attention to the new early-morning tennis playing opportunities at the White Bear Racquet Club beginning January 5 and 6. They help fill the need for additional sites for our St. Paul members.

Swimmin' Jim Keeps Slim

Want to stay young and healthy? Do it Jim Lidstone's way.

This young man of 73, a budding tennis star, spends 2½ hours swimming 85 laps (a little over 2 miles) every other day. On his tennis drill day, he swims only 40 laps.

Jim is a former design engineer. He has been a swimmer all his life and has taught swimming for the American Red Cross. He is now working on his tour papers with Ginny Owens' and Percy Hughes' Thursday morning class at the Nicollet Tennis Center. This energetic fellow might have one pound of body fat on him! Need to get fit and slim? Do it Jim's way!



See your favorite players make tennis history! Isn't it time you saw the world's best tennis in person?

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Enjoy the warmth of "down under" Hospitality and Melbourne's summer in January. Start your planning now. Your courtside box seat awaits you.
JANUARY 1995

FRENCH OPEN

Your Left Bank hotel puts you in the mood for a vacation to remember. Springtime in Paris and great center court seats. Start your morning at the Louvre and spend afternoons at Stade Roland Garros.
MAY/JUNE 1994

WIMBLEDON

LONDON: HISTORY... TRADITION
Exciting grass court tennis by day, and original London theater at night. Big Ben and strawberries and cream, of course!
JUNE/JULY 1994

US OPEN

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Choose from our Early Rounds, Labor Day or Finals Weekend Tours.

THE LIPTON TOURNAMENT
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MARCH 11-20, 1994

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Tennis Tips by Ginny Owens

Net Position Advantages in Doubles

Because doubles matches are usually won by attack, you have undoubtedly been instructed many times during lessons, "Get to the net with your partner." There are advantages to this positioning, whether you are receiving or serving.

If the serving team forces the receiving team behind the baseline, and the server and the partner assume control at the net, larger areas of the court are left undefended, increasing the number of target areas available to the net team.

For the defenders near the baseline, the target areas are limited. Passing the two net players requires a difficult passing shot, either down the sidelines or through the narrow space between the opposing net persons. The other slightly wider target is the net team's baseline, and this requires a deep, well-placed lob to be effective.

So, be aggressive in doubles and work as a team, always keeping in mind the goal of attaining a good attacking net position.



The Hartley's Harvest

For years, Don and Ev Hartley have been raising fresh fruits and vegetables by the hundredweight and giving it to local foodshelves. Their hard work and loving gifts are inspirational to us all.

Percy Hughes received a Christmas card from the Hartleys, and wants to share with us the note Don wrote in it. Don penned:

"As the last songbird departs, the plow is silent and a tranquility rests over the field.

As we wipe the last beads of sweat from our brow, we reflect on the bountiful harvest and wonder, how effective was its yield?

For those less fortunate than us, it was 4,264 pounds of donated, nutritional cheer.

With a prayer for next season and thoughts of our friends, we say, "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!"

A Helpful Hint from Virginia Morgan

Place a plastic bag over your tennis shoe when changing out of sweatpants or into them—it'll be easier. Providing, of course, your pant leg is big enough!



c o u r t n e w s

Time Change at Northland South

The time for the drill held at the Northland Fitness Center South on Wednesdays is changing. Effective January 5, the new time will be from 5-6:30 p.m. (the time used to be 5:15-6:45 p.m.).

Courts Available

Williston-Sagedahl has two courts available on Sundays from 4-6 p.m. for any senior tennis players willing to commit to one or two courts every week or every other week through May 8. Call Pat Allar at 935-8638.

Schedule Change

The correct time for Hank Lofquist's group at Williston-Sagedahl is 8-9:30 a.m. Call Hank at 476-4543 for information.

Decathlon Mixed

Doubles Needs Guys

The Friday morning 9:30-11 a.m. mixed doubles group at the Decathlon Club needs more men at the 3.0 level to play in January and February. Call Mary Wenz at 457-5347.

Time Change at Decathlon

There is a change in the time for the Wednesday morning group at the Decathlon Club. Starting January 5 to April 13, Mike Bosanko's group will play from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Call Mike at 881-0258 for information.

Williston-Sagedahl Mixed

Doubles Needs Players

Regular players and subs with a rating of about 3.0 are needed for mixed doubles at Williston-Sagedahl on Saturdays from 4-6 p.m. Call Ronae Wagner, 938-5785 or Roz Bernstein, 544-0511 for information.

Really Senior Tennis

Golden Agers—men and women age 80 and over—if you're interested in organizing a group, call Dick Pratt at 433-3583.

Location and Time Change at White Bear Racquet Club

There is a schedule and location change for the Friday afternoon group at the White Bear Racquet Club. The group will play on Fridays from 1-3 p.m. at the Wooddale Recreation Center, 2122 Wooddale Drive, Woodbury, 735-6214. The captain is Dick Pratt, 433-3583.

New St. Paul

Playing Opportunities

Early morning playing opportunities have been arranged at the White Bear Racquet Club. Our efforts to provide more playing times in the St. Paul area have resulted in two-hour playing sessions from 7-9 a.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, beginning January 5 and 6, 1994. Depending on demand, we can have as many as three courts available on each day.

Because these are early morning times, we will also get a reduced rate for court time. A comfortable lunchroom is available for those who may want to play and then socialize a bit afterwards over a cup of coffee and a doughnut or roll. Lockers and towels will also be provided upon request.

Spaces are available for both men and women, on both regular and substitute lists. Call John Stecklein at 644-8304 for registration or information.



Congratulations

The latest STPC member to complete twelve lessons is:

Sandy Vick

Remember, notify your instructor when you've completed twelve lessons.



Thanks, Roger Boyer, for Another Holiday Drill

The fifty STPC members who participated in the Annual Holiday Drill appreciate the time Roger Boyer gave to instruct, drill and donate prizes. Pros Percy Hughes and Ginny Owens assisted with the drill, which was held on December 16 at the Nicollet Tennis Center. Thanks also goes to Connie Custodio for showing up.

Every participant won a prize. The big prize was won by Fremont Fletcher. He was lucky enough to take home a Prince racquet donated by Roger Boyer, the Prince regional representative.

Court Manners by Ted Smith

Frequently, when playing doubles you hear the statement, "I'm not sure if it was in or not, why not play it over?" This situation should not come up, but should be handled by custom and tradition.

According to the rules, a ball touching a line is regarded as falling in the court bounded by that line. In a match without officials, it is customary for each player to make the calls on all balls hit to his or her side of the net. If a player can't call a ball "out" with surety it should be regarded as good.

Some things are not specifically set forth in the rules, but are handled by the code which helps form ethics and fair play. By custom, in case of doubt on a call, your opponent gets the benefit of the doubt.

It is both the obligation and prerogative of a player to call all falls on his or her side, to help the opponent make calls when the opponent requests it, and to call against himself (with the exception of a first serve) any ball that he clearly sees out on his opponent's side of the net.

In doubles play, when one partner calls a ball out and the other player calls it good, then the doubt that has been created means that the ball must be considered to have been good. The opponent must get the benefit of the doubt and the point.

Any call of "out," "let," or "fault" must be made instantaneously—otherwise, the ball is pronounced good and in play. This automatically removes any need to replay a point because of doubt on where the ball hit.

Bloomington Annual Heart & Health Tennis Social

— Food and Prizes —

Sunday, February 13, 5 p.m.
Decathlon Club
7800 Cedar Avenue

for reservations call
Carolyn Larson, 887-9601
or Jan Bernard, 887-9747

Contribution—\$25—made out to:
Bloomington Heart & Health Program
1900 W. Old Shakopee Rd.
Bloomington, MN 55431

or give check to Chuck Supplee, 888-0551

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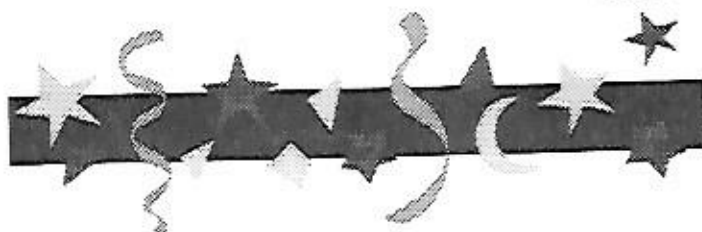
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Miracle Mile Shopping Center
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St. Louis Park, MN 55416
Phone (612)926-1520



Singles Tennis Party

Feb. 19 White Bear Racquet Club

A party for singles to play doubles at the White Bear Racquet and Swim Club, 4800 White Bear Parkway, White Bear Lake



Tennis goes from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Play starting at 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. We will do our best to match you with other players of similar level. There will be snacks!

(From 35E, exit onto Hwy. 96. Go east a block to the stoplight, which is White Bear Parkway, and turn left. The club is just a few blocks off 35E.)

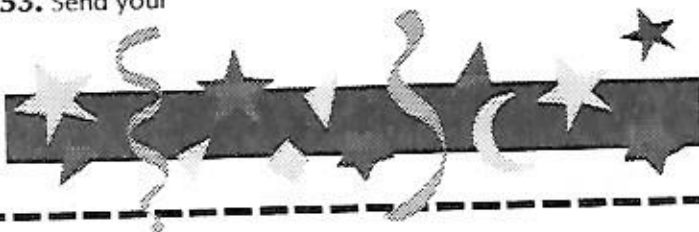
Swim too! Bring your swim suit and take a dip in the pool before or after tennis.

Cost \$15, non-tennis players only \$6

Reserve now! Make check out to STPC, fill out the form below and mail to:

Bev Sinniger, 1940 Fairmount Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105, phone 698-8153. Send your check in early.

Deadline is February 4.



name _____

telephone _____ Rating _____

time you prefer to play _____ 7 p.m. _____ 8:30 p.m. _____

name of nonplayer _____

Why Do I Get My Newsletter So Late?



Every so often, members ask why there isn't faster delivery of the *Senior Tennis Times*. Here's an attempt at an explanation.

We do our best from our end to write each issue, edit it and get it to our printer as soon after the deadline (the 20th of each month) as possible. The printer sees to the actual printing, putting on the mailing labels, and batching and sacking the newsletter. Every month we send out about 1,250 copies via the Postal Service's bulk mail service.

The sacks are delivered to the Bulk Post Office depot in Minneapolis. From there the sacks are trucked to their respective post offices throughout the Twin Cities, according to zip code. Bulk mail must be forwarded on to the next zip code point (post office) within 48 hours, and the Post Office tells us they meet this requirement. However, multiply that 48 hours by the several drops some of the sacks go through, and you'll see that the world of bulk mail isn't always speedy. At the very end of this chain, your letter carrier also has 48 hours to deliver bulk mail to you.

We know that some areas get quicker deliveries than others, but unfortunately that's the way the system works. We use bulk mail because it represents a substantial savings over sending the newsletter first class. If we sent 1250 newsletters first class, it would cost \$362.50. Our typical bill from the Postal Service is \$125 per month. That means more money for other tennis activities, and more fun for you!

In Memoriam

- STPC extends sympathy to Connie Custodio, on the death of his mother, Petra Custodio, 86.
- Donald Schierman, 65, of Minnetonka died on November 29 of lung cancer. He was captain of three teams at Williston-Sagedahl for the past three years and was on the courts up until six weeks ago.

Our sympathy is extended to his five sons, one daughter and their families. His winning smile and friendly demeanor will be missed by his many tennis friends.

- STPC extends sympathy to the family of Robert A. Thacher, 80, who died September 27.

Experienced Tax Service

Syl Hansen
529-8903

WANTED: Advertising salesperson for small St. Paul suburban newspaper, salaried, 2 days per week. Sales or journalism background helpful. Call Lisa at 730-9116.



1993-4 Winter Schedule for New Members Lessons/Members Drills (12/20/93)

Location	Day	Time	Instructor	Phone
Nicollet Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave. Minneapolis, 825-6844	Thurs	8:30-10 A.M.	Percy Hughes Ginny Owens	545-7696 546-9666
Northland Fitness Center South 5250 West 84th Street Bloomington, 831-2660	Wed	5:00-6:30 P.M.	Ernie Greene	488-6359
Williston-Sagedahl Club 14509 Minnetonka Drive Minnetonka, 935-8638	Mon	5:30-7 P.M.	Connie Custodio	824-2569
Wooddale Recreation Center 2122 Wooddale Drive Woodbury, 735-6214	Mon	8-9:30 P.M.	Virginia Morgan	459-6059
Combination Play and Drill Sessions				
Northland Fitness Center North 7624 Boone Avenue N Brooklyn Park, 425-5880 These sessions are combination drill/play: one 20 min session doubles drills, and two 40 min. sessions doubles play.	Mon	11-1 P.M. (1.0-2.0 rated players only)	Ted Kopren	425-5880
	Tues	10:30-12:30 P.M. (2.5- 3.5 rated players only)	Ted Kopren	425-5880

Membership Count

The STPC membership count as of December 20, 1993 is 1,426.

Deadline for Stories

The deadline for stories and ads for the January 1994 Senior Tennis Times is ~~January~~ 20, 1994.

February! (even editors make mistakes)

Ad Rates

full page \$100
 half-page \$75
 quarter-page \$50
 classified ad (max of 4 lines,
 available to members only \$15



Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A Nonprofit Corporation
1988 North Wheeler St.
Saint Paul, MN 55113
612-644-8304

Senior Tennis Times

The *Senior Tennis Times* is published monthly by and for the members of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

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612-781-3271

1993-1994 Board of Directors

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- Robert E. Metcalf, Senior Vice President 571-3596
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St. Anthony, MN 55418-2545

Address Correction Requested

January 1994

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