

Senior Tennis

TIMES

Newsletter
of the Senior
Tennis Players Club

Volume 7, Number 2

February 1994

John Stecklein, STPC President, accepted the Northwestern Tennis Association's 1993 Organization of the Year award on behalf of STPC at the NWTAs Annual Awards Luncheon at the Decathlon Club on January 15. His acceptance speech is reprinted here:

"Thank you, Mr. Larson.

"You know how it is when you go onto the tennis court to begin a match. You take the plastic cap off the can of balls, flip the tab on the lid and hear that pleasant swishing sound — s-s-s-s-s-s-s-s-s. Then you take the balls out and feel that reassuring bounce as you hit the balls and play your games.

"Then, after you have played with the balls, you put them back in the can and store them on the shelf for a time before you use them again. The next time you use them you find that they don't have as much bounce as they once did, but you use them anyhow and manage to play a pretty creditable game. Well, our Senior Tennis Players Club members are like those balls. They may not have as much bounce as they used to, but they still manage to play a pretty decent game. Furthermore, they have a lot of fun doing it.

The Senior Tennis Players Club is indebted to the Board of Directors and officers of the Northwestern Tennis Association for this award as the 1993 Organization of the Year. Recognition such as this is very important because it puts a lot of the bounce back into our members. It lets us know that someone else out there is aware of what we are doing, considers it important, and has taken the trouble to tell us so.

"On behalf of the Senior Tennis Players Club I accept this lovely clock and again express our appreciation for this very special award. Thank you."



John Stecklein accepts the 1993 NWTAs Organization of the Year Award

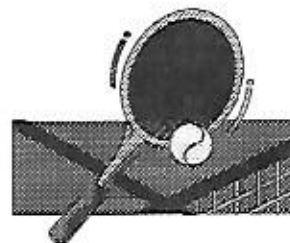
This Might Be Your Last Issue!

If you don't renew your membership in STPC by February 15, this will be your last issue of the *Senior Tennis Times*. All nonrenewed members will be purged from the membership database before the March issue with the roster is mailed.

If you want your name to appear in the 1994 membership roster, your renewal form **must be in the editor's hands by February 15**. The sheer logistics of processing the number of renewals and proofing the roster for errors means I can't accept any more entries after that date, in order to meet the publishing deadline.

You can still renew, of course, but you'll be considered a new member. So please, act now! Thanks for your cooperation.

— The Editor



Percy Hughes Elected Director of NWTAs

Percy Hughes was elected to a third three-year term as a director of the Northwestern Tennis Association. Congratulations, Percy!



Baseline

by John Stecklein,
STPC President

The first couple of weeks in January have been busy ones. The Board held its meeting on January 11, following a meeting of the nominating committee, which considered 14 nominees for seven directorships on the Board for the coming year. The seven-member slate recommended by the nominating committee was unanimously endorsed by the Board. The new directors of the Board for the three year period beginning April 1, 1994 are: Alan Uhl, Don Bratt, David Brink, Marilyn Erickson, Dot Guenther, Lee Patten, and Charles Slocum. We welcome these fine people to the board and thank them for their willingness to serve. We also express our appreciation to those who permitted us to include their names among the nominees for the positions, but were not elected. We hope they will let us include their names in the election process next year.

Outgoing directors, several of whom have served faithfully for many years, are Holger Christiansen, Norm Diamond, Bernice Hanson, Percy Hughes, Mary Kaminski, Jerry Lund, and Jean Wallace. Special thanks are given to them for their hard work and devoted service.

A committee is now working to identify board members to fill the positions of President, Senior Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President for Public Relations, Vice President for Newsletter, and Vice President for Facilities. Nominations for these officers will be presented at the March 15 meeting, and election will take place at the April 12 meeting of the Board.

I had the pleasure of attending the Awards Luncheon of the Northwestern Tennis Association on Saturday, January 15 at the Decathlon Club, to accept the award for the 1993 NWT A Organization of the Year. We are indebted to the NWT A for this recognition of our efforts. As I said at the presentation, it is a real shot in the arm for those people who have devoted many hours to the development and operation of the Club, as well as to those who are currently working to maintain and improve the Club's services and functions.



Happy
St. Valentine's
Day

*Love means
nothing in
tennis. So why
do we pursue
tennis with
such a pas-
sion? Are we
through with
love?*

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Le Coq Sportif, Lily's of Beverly Hills, Nike, Prince, Sergio
Tacchini, Slazenger, Sport Panties, Tall,
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court news

Wanted: 3.5 Players

We want to start a new group at Northland North on Fridays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. We need regular players and subs. Call Bob Metcalf, 571-3596.

Sowder Hired as Pro at Wooddale

Jason Sowder, one of our fine substitute teaching pros, has been hired by Lois Nordstrom at the Wooddale Club. Jason has filled in or substituted for our staff pros since becoming certified. He has been very popular with our members.

Congratulations, Jason, on your new assignment. We hope you will still be available for our lessons and drills.

White Bear Lake

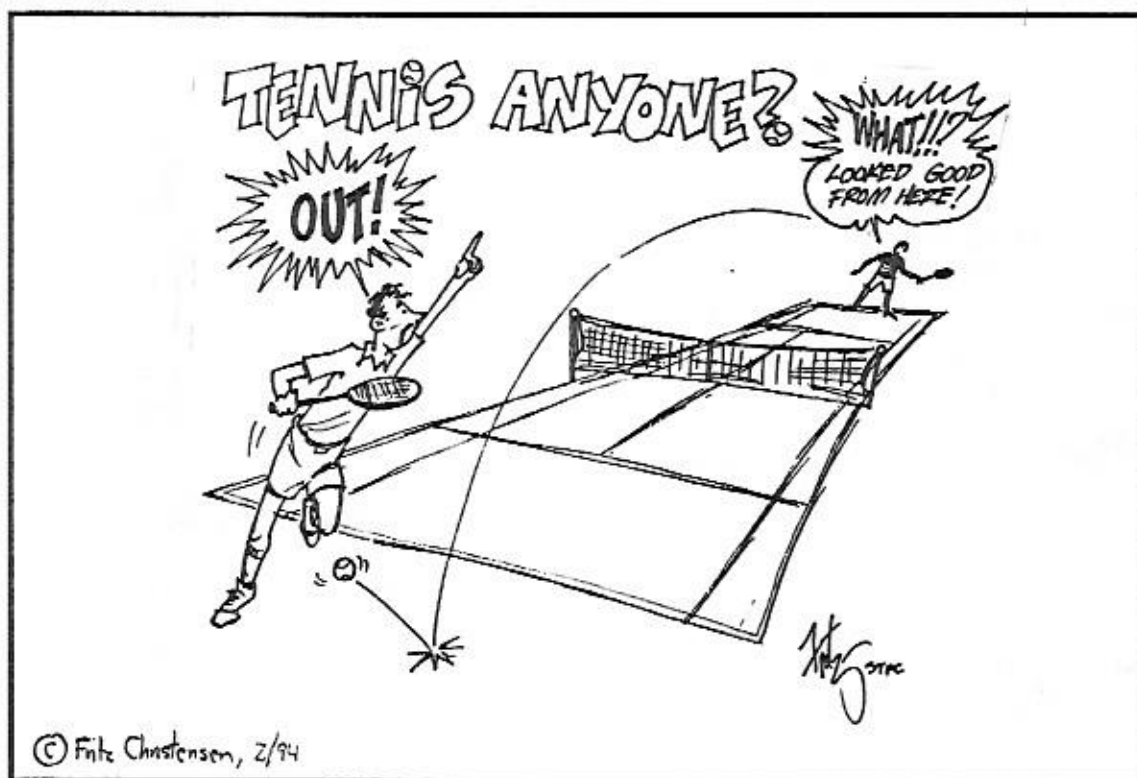
White Bear Lake has captains! They are: Bill Michalko, 777-9576, for Wednesdays, 7-9 a.m., and Al Uhl, 644-9810, for Thursdays, 7-9 a.m. If you're interested in playing, call Bill or Al for more information.

Attention, Captains

Will you please ask all your players if they have renewed their membership for 1994? This also applies to lifetime members. If they haven't, they may call Bernice Hanson at 633-3276 or Char Hall at 474-5873 for a renewal form, which includes the waiver statement that must be signed each year for participation in STPC.

It has been reported that some people who have never joined STPC are playing. We would appreciate your checking on the membership status of all those on your team and sub list. Hopefully, you have saved the new member lists from the newsletters and attached them to your roster — a good thing to continue after our new roster comes out in March.

To receive new member applications for any prospects, please call either Bernice or Char. Also, if any clubs where you play are out of our application forms for display, do give Char a call. Thanks very much.



© Fitz Christensen, 2/94

Tennis Tips by Ernie Greene

The Serve

Some people think that the serve is the most important stroke of the game of tennis today. It's certainly necessary to get the game started, and it can account for as much as for fifty percent of the points in a match. So take a bucket of balls out to the court and practice!

First, check your grip. The eastern forehand grip will do nicely for a flat serve. Second, check your body alignment. For singles, you should stand about a yard from the center mark; for doubles, about two yards. With your side partially to the net and your lead foot pointing at the right net post, your back foot should be placed such that if you drew a line from toe to toe, it would be pointing in the direction of your target area. Now you have the proper body alignment in relation to the baseline.

The toss should be with a straight arm, palm up and the ball

held on the fingertips. Now you are ready to practice hitting some serves. A good place to start is placement.

Set some targets in the corners of the service area and practice hitting to the target areas. Tennis ball containers will do as targets. Most of the serves should be hit to the backhand, as this will be your bread-and-butter shot in match play.

Another good practice is to divide the service area into four sections (dividing each area in half). See if you can place the ball in each section four out of five times (80%). Once you can do this, try it again with slightly more pace. This will help you determine at what pace you can serve the ball and still maintain a high percentage of accuracy. Now, you don't have to go looking for aces—they will come.

Annual Meeting

Remember last year's
Annual Meeting?

— the line dancing —

this year's "meeting"
is at the Golden Valley
VFW Club on
Medicine Lake Boulevard.
Friday, April 29

Save it — plan around it

We'll have fun again!

*Reservations begin
next month.*

Experienced Tax Service

Syl Hansen
529-8903

Congratulations

The latest STPC member to complete twelve lessons is:

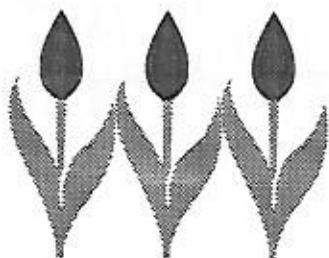
John Lindstrom

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

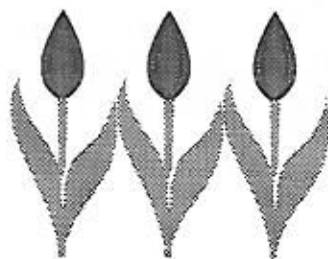


In Memoriam

A.F. (Monty) Eichhorn, 74, died January 17 in Naples, Florida of a brain hemorrhage. He was an STPC member since 1986.



Spring Fling March Indoor Tennis Party



When

Saturday, March 26th

Time

7 p.m.–11 p.m. Come early...stay late!

Where

Northwest Racquet Swim & Health Club, Highway 100 North and France Avenue

Cost

\$10 for tennis (2 hours), \$5 for nonplayers. Includes tennis, food, use of the pool, exercise room, running track, whirlpool and sauna.

Reservations

Fill in the form below and send it with a check made payable to STPC, to:

William Storie
14220 Starlite Dr
Rogers, MN 55374

Get your reservations in early for the best court time. Play arranged according to skill level. We can accommodate special foursomes for the first round. After that it's mix, mix, mix! Not playing? Come to socialize or fill openings on courts, or use the other facilities.

Name	Phone	Rating	Time Preferred	
			7 p.m.	9 p.m.
1. _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____
2. _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____
3. _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____
4. _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____	/ _____

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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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Address Correction Requested

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