

Senior Tennis TIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SENIOR TENNIS PLAYERS CLUB, INC.

NOVEMBER 1996

New Process Makes Renewal Easy...

IT'S RENEWAL TIME!

Yes, it's that time again—time to renew your membership in the Senior Tennis Players Club. And we're changing the renewal procedure this year.

This year, no more filling out a form! Instead you'll receive a first-class mailing with an invoice for your 1997 dues that lists the membership information we have in the computer. All you'll have to do is verify if it's still correct, sign the Membership Conditions and send it back with your check for \$20.

This first-class letter will follow you wherever you've gone to escape the Minnesota winter, so your membership won't lapse and you'll continue to receive the Times. We hope you'll appreciate the convenience of not having to fill out a form.

And don't worry—if you've already renewed for 1997, the computer knows and won't send you an invoice.

So watch your mailbox—and renew your membership right away! And let us know what you think of the new system—we think you'll like it but we'd love to know for sure! Just write a note on the invoice or contact the editor, Nancy Kaminski at (phone) 672-6882 or (email) nancykam@minn.net. ■

Ad In

by Sue Larson, STPC President

Today is beautiful and sunny in Minnesota. Outdoor tennis is not possible with all the colorful leaves covering the courts but I know the indoor courts are buzzing with action from members of STPC.

I know that there are many potential senior tennis players waiting to hear from us. Our goal is 2000 members by the end of this century, but Jim Tomoe, our hard-working, efficient treasurer, tells us at board meetings that we continue to be behind schedule in finding new members. To Jim we all say, "Hey! No problem!" The election is now over and we can find time to talk to others about the Senior Tennis Players Club. We all believe that basically we have one goal in mind: "To encourage seniors 50 and over to have fun, enjoy good health, and make new friends."

Our club has been successful in doing just that for thirteen years. As of November 1, membership in the club reached an all-time high of 1,629, and we always have room for more.

Bill Connell has taken over as chair of the Training Committee. Let me tell you, he is a hard worker. "A job isn't worth doing," says Bill, "unless you get going right away." Plans for 1997 are in high gear.

The Nominating Committee, under the direction of Chuck Slocum, with members Jim Tomoe, Jean Olson, Jack Walling and myself in an ex-officio capacity, are expanding our recruiting of new board members. A form for you to fill out has been included in the newsletter if you are interested in joining the board, or have a friend you would like to recommend. We are looking for people with a proven commitment to STPC, shown by their involvement as captain, committee member, etc., rather than just willing to attend meetings. Our board is both a policy-making group as well as an operational group.

We are also looking for one of you who is a professional or commercial photographer. Upgrading the pictures in our newsletter is a priority. Call me or Nancy Kaminski if you are talented in this area.

Bob Tischbein has been leading us into a professional approach to public relations for the last six months, and now has agreed to become a member of our board. Give him a "high five" next time you see him!

May you have a happy fall and do keep in touch. ■

Captains' Corner

by Chuck Slocum, Facilities/
Programs Director

Our STPC membership is at a new high, but we need still to replace the 200 members or so who move away, die or simply have to give up tennis each year. Dick Lidstone consulted with each facility coordinator and then sent letters to each captain asking each captain to sign up one new member. Each board member has promised to sign up at least two new members as well. This is essential to maintain our membership at the current level.

In addition, one place to look for new members is on the rosters of your current players. We know there are some "freeloaders" playing without paying their membership dues.

Because of the liability issue, each captain must make sure that all players are current members. Please check your roster and then send a list to Dick Lidstone with your written acknowledgment that each player is a bona fide member of STPC.

Thanks for your cooperation and support. We couldn't function without your great efforts! ■

CHANGES PROPOSED FOR TEAMTENNIS 1997

by John Connelly

The 1996 TeamTennis captains are proposing expanding the TeamTennis program in 1997.

1997 TeamTennis, coordinated by John Connelly and assisted by Deni Sahr, will be a ten-week program scheduled to run from June 17 through August 19, 1997. The major goals of this program (besides providing good exercise for members) are to encourage forming lasting friendships and promoting comradeship among STPC members throughout the metropolitan area.

The major change for the 1997 program is there will be two levels of play instead of one. Level A will be for players in the 3.0-4.0 range, and Level B for players in the 3.0 and under range. Each level will have eight teams.

In order for the captains to design a program that meets your needs, they would like to hear from people who are interested in playing TeamTennis in 1997. If you're interested, fill out this little form and send it to the appropriate coordinator. Indicate if you're willing to be a captain next year. ■

TeamTennis 1997 Sign Up

Yes! I would like to participate in TeamTennis 1997!

- Level A (3.0-4.0)
- Level B (3.0 and under)
- I would like to be a captain

Name _____

Phone _____

If Level A, send this form to Janice Hagen,
7510 Cahill Rd. #315B, Edina, MN 55439
(phone) 941-4789

If level B, send this form to Jack Wallin,
1258 Ohio St., West Saint Paul, MN 55118
(phone) 457-2266.

IN MEMORIAM

Gil Goetz. Member Gil Goetz, 70, died 9/29/96. He passed away at his Minneapolis home two weeks after quadruple bypass heart surgery. Gil was head of Project Grow, which he organized to get Indians to grow fruits and vegetables as a way to combat diabetes. The project grew from 17 families on Fond du Lac reservation to more than 1,400 families on many reservations.

Our sympathies are extended to his four children and three sisters.

Raymond Eklund. Member Ray Eklund, 74, of Edina, died October

26 of an apparent heart attack while trying to put out a fire in his cabin's garage in Annandale. Before his retirement, Ray was vice president of H.O. Mikkelsen construction company, which built churches, ice arenas and schools throughout the Twin Cities area. He coached youth baseball and was trustee, deacon and choir member at First Covenant Church in Edina.

STPC extends our sympathies to his wife, Aileen, and four sons and their families. ■

Captains' Profiles

by George Erickson

John Connelly

Like most of us, John Connelly had no plans to become a captain when he joined Senior Tennis about eight years ago. At the time, he'd only been playing a couple of years, so, as he put it, "I was pretty much a beginner." However, time, practice and his fellow players finally persuaded him to co-captain with Mary Kaminski about four years ago. At Nicollet, Mary and John ride herd on three courts of mixed doubles every Thursday during the winter. In addition, John coordinates our summer Team Tennis program.

Except for a brief period from 1944-46, when the Navy whisked him off to radar school, John has been a true-blue, stay-at-home, local guy. Born in Saint Paul, he graduated from Crebin High, went on to Saint Thomas, then the University of Minnesota, where he studied engineering. On his release from the Navy, John found work as a draftsman with the City of Saint Paul, and during his forty-year tenure with the city, became its Director of Research.

Somewhere in those early years, the Connellys met and married, and now enjoy their two daughters and one grandchild. One daughter still lives in Saint Paul, the other in Houston.

John gets enthusiastic when talking about the "wonderful people" he's met through Senior Tennis, and claims that our program is "just a blessing for exercise."

John has seen plenty of community involvement, serving as president of an AARP chapter and as its community coordinator. In addition, he's worked with the Metro Council Commission and has served on both the Ramsey County and Saint Paul Charter Commissions.

Now that he's retired, John likes to spend more time with music, playing four instruments: the piano, banjo, guitar and accordion. He saves some time for golf and for tennis, of course, where he puts his radar training to use by homing in on incoming balls and pelting his opponents with winners. ■

TENNIS NOTES

Thanks!

We, the summer captains at Augsburg Park, wish to thank all of the "Ageless Augies" for their lovely gifts of appreciation.

Here's looking forward to the summer of 1997!

Ruth Aase and Lorraine McDaniel ■

Decathlon Needs Players

One permanent player is needed for Decathlon Club for the winter/spring session, Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30 am. A skill level of 2.5-3.5 is preferred. We also need subs. Please call Mike Bosanko, 881-0258 or Chuck Mercer, 431-2761, if you're interested. ■

Attention, All Ye Singles!

No outing is planned for December, but after January we'll be swinging into our first year of singles events. Mark down January 12, 1997 on your calendars, and look for details in December's Tennis Times.

Rosemary Dincen, 872-7455, Dick Lidstone, 941-4724, and Carol Robertson Brown, 935-9370. ■

Reminder for New Members

Percy Hughes and his professional staff have a reminder for our new members: tennis lessons for new members are free. However, court time costs \$2.00. ■

STPC Holiday Tennis Event

Sunday, December 8
Flagship Athletic Club
8-10 a.m.



755 Prairie Center Drive
Eden Prairie, 941-4059

Players will be matched by skill level for the first round,
with half-hour rotations based on winning or losing.

\$13.50 per person. All tennis players must be members of STPC.

Continental breakfast will follow play (cash bar).

Deadline: registration is due by Sunday, December 1.
Send your registration form and check, payable to STPC, to
Jackie Rouillard, 15615 26th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55447.
Phone 553-9895.

Directions: from 494, take Exit 11C, Highway 5 West.
Stay in the left lane. Turn left at Prairie Center Drive.

Send this reservation
form with your check for
\$13.50 per person, made
out to STPC, to:

Jackie Rouillard
15615-26th Ave N
Plymouth MN 55447

For more information,
call Jackie at 553-9895
or Marilyn Thorne at
471-9813.

Player #1: Name _____

Phone _____

Rating _____

Player #2: Name _____

Phone _____

Rating _____

Nonplayer _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

BIG NAME BRANDS ..AT LOW TENNIS PRICES!

Adidas, Babolat, Balle de Match, Boast, Cyclo, Darlyn Designs, Dunlop, Ellesse, Fancy Pants, Fred Perry, Gift Items, Handsport, Head Racquets, Head Sports Wear, IXSPA, K-Swiss, Kaelin, LeCoq Sportif, Lily's of Beverly Hills, Little Miss Tennis, Nike, Penn, Prince, Sergio Tacchini, Sport Panties, Tail, Thor-Lo, Videos, Wilson, Wimbledon, Volkl, Yonex and much more....and furthermore, if you don't find it, we will special order it for you!

Michael Lynne's
TENNIS SHOP

Miracle Mile Shopping Center
5007 Excelsior Blvd. - St. Louis Park, MN 55416

 * You will appreciate our friendly service



Fax 612-926-1595

In 1997, come to
**San Antonio,
Texas!**

Enjoy tennis drills
every morning with
Ernie Greene and
Lois Nordman at the
Seven Oaks Resort

March 16-23 ---- \$350
March 16-25 ---- \$400
(based on double occupancy;
price increase January 1)

To reserve your room, send \$100 per person
(check made out to Super Seniors) to

Chuck Supplee
5144 Balmoral Ln
Bloomington MN 55437
612-888-0551



Two-Liner Want Ads

These free two-liner want ads are available to all STPC members. If you would like to place a free ad, call or write the editor, Nancy Kaminski. Your ad can only be about 100 spaces long, so be brief!

Heirloom videos—Grandma/Grandpa remembers—video photo albums—weddings—call 920-2945.

For Sale. Upright piano and bench. Best offer. 927-4711.

For Sale: 3-br twnhse, 1700 sq. ft., wlk-in closets. 2-car gar., storage. Pool, tennis. St Louis Pk. Joanne, 933-5731, 936-2957.

Winter sub needed. Tuesdays 1-3:30 pm, Nicollet. Call Harlan Feuk, 544-2991.

Needed: Male and female subs for snowbirds, Jan through April at Williston Club. Call Henry, 546-7317.

Palm Desert, CA, Shadow Mountain Resort tennis vacation, Feb. 12-28. Call Marilyn, 471-9813.

Naples, FL: World Tennis Center, 2/1-3/15, 2-week or more sessions. Call Don Bratt, 571-6762, ASAP.

Mazatlan. Ocean view, 3-br condo, 2 baths, tennis, pool, maid. \$375/week. 227-5359.

Ft. Lauderdale, FL: 3-br/2-bath private home near beach, Imperial Point. Bill Edwards, 698-2878.

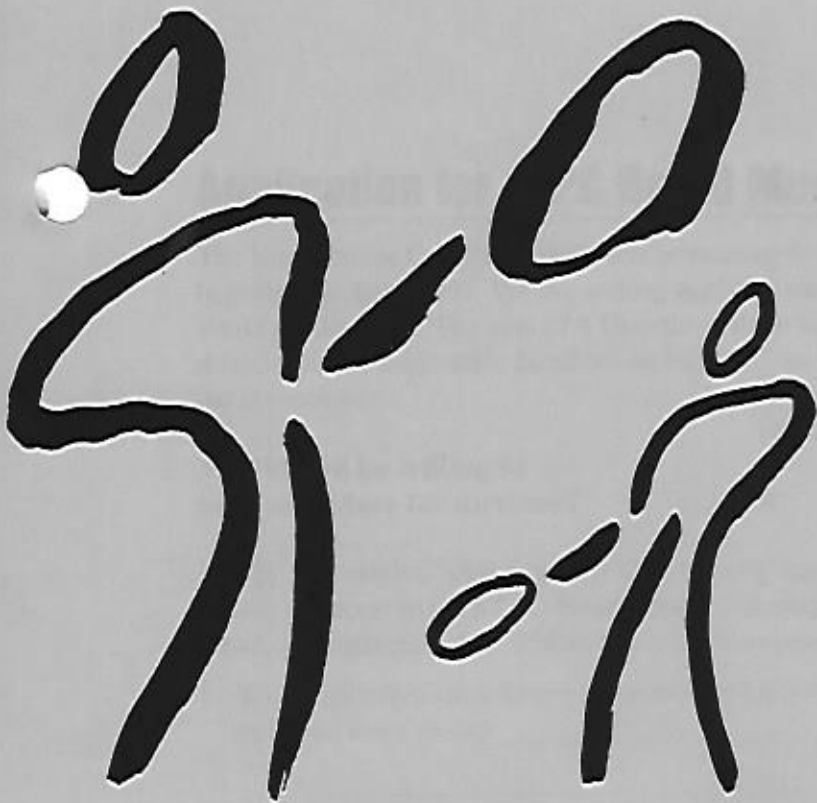
Puerto Vallarta: Ocean-front estate, 5-bedrooms/private baths. Tennis, pool, cook, maid. \$3200/wk. 935-4578.

U of M Elderhostel: "Art and Architecture in Holiday Splendor" Resident or commuter 12/8-13 593-1117.

Women college grads: Join AAUW for stimulating programs & lunch on Mons at our Mpls clubhouse. 474-5873/724-0313.

Lost: 1-qt. Igloo cooler, blue/wht, USTA decal. Left at Lakewood Comm. Col. court in Sept. D Zimmer, 588-2554.

Paid Advertisements



An Opportunity Through Tennis

To Help Youngsters & our Community
In The
Senior Tennis Players Club - InnerCity Tennis - Mentoring Program

The Plan

A fun kick-off event is planned for Nov. 23 at the Decathlon Club courts, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. — It will include; 1- a get acquainted program. 2 - tennis contests. 3 - tennis play. 4 - a box lunch.

The Goal

To link senior tennis players to young tennis players in on-going relationships, for the benefit of all participating. There is no cost and no obligation. If you choose to continue a number of events and opportunities will be available - lessons - tournaments - clinics.

This first event is limited to the first 24 seniors to sign up below

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION
PLEASE CALL**

**ROGER BOYER
470-0246**

**Please fill out the information below
and mail to *Roger Boyer* -
*95 West Pt. Court - Tonka Bay - 55331***

Yes I would like to participate in the STPC-ICT mentor program

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

Application for STPC Board Membership

The Nominations Committee will soon be meeting to select new directors for STPC for the year beginning in April 1997. We are seeking qualified candidates who would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors. The term of a Director is three years. Competent directors are needed to make thoughtful and responsible decisions on behalf of the membership and to take leadership roles in the organization.

Would you be willing to be a candidate for director?

Yes Maybe No

If "yes" or "maybe," please answer the following questions in as much detail as you may need, and submit this form to the **STPC Nominations Committee, c/o Chuck Slocum, 9506 Woodbridge Road, Bloomington, MN 55438-1667, by November 5, 1996.**

1. What leadership roles have you performed for STPC? (Don't be modest—write on the back if you need more space)

2. What leadership roles have you performed for other organizations? Be specific.

3. Would you be able to attend monthly meetings? Yes No

4. In your judgment, what are your three greatest strengths?

5. What is your greatest weakness?

6. In which of the following areas would you have an interest in serving? Check one or more.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> membership recruitment | <input type="checkbox"/> newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dow Tournament | <input type="checkbox"/> tennis parties |
| <input type="checkbox"/> facility coordinator | <input type="checkbox"/> training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Team Tennis | <input type="checkbox"/> public relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> captain | <input type="checkbox"/> finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> historian | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> special events | |

7. Your ideas of what STPC can do to better serve its membership?

Thank you for your response!

Love Stories

by Norm Diamond

Energy To Burn: That's LaVerne

Meeting a woman for the first time to get a Love Stories interview is not unlike joining a blind date. In many cases you lose some or are pleasingly surprised when the interviewee turns out to be winsome. After coffee and pastries at Byerlys, I took out my trusty notebook and pen and fired questions at LaVerne Wilger, an attractive 5'7", slim, lithe and blue-eyed blonde who captains the Wolfe Park tennis aficionados six days a week.

Wilger is not your average woman noted in silent movies but rather a modernist who grew without benefit of rose-colored glasses. Life began in St. Cloud with the first major hurdle graduation from Cathedral High. She still can recount the nuns slapping her wrist when she got antsy but retains memories of the gentle sisters providing her with a sound education. Her part time job while in high school was at a drug store where she learned about business and its offshoots. Then it was on to graduation from St. Cloud Business College and entry into the cold, hard world of making a living.

First off Wilger became office manager of St. Cloud Children's Home and later worked for a local bank. On August 18, 1951, she married Dick Wilger, a St. John's University graduate and budding teacher. With no jobs but a lot of hope, the newlyweds moved to Boulder, Colorado, where initially LaVerne worked for lawyers. The Wilgers then went into business only

to discover Dick was better as a teacher. It was then a move to an improbable Bartley, Nebraska, a remote outpost, where our heroine worked for the Bureau of Reclamation and spouse taught English and Social Studies to all grades. Trekking back to St. Cloud, LaVerne caught on with a law firm while Dick achieved a Master's degree at St. Cloud State. Out popped a first child, Jane, and Dick went on to fulltime teaching positions at Central and South junior highs and eventually to St. Cloud Tech.

When two sons came along, Tom and Steve, LaVerne quit working to become a mom. She found time to volunteer at schools and started selling real estate. A divorce followed and LaVerne caught on at St. Cloud State working for the VP of Academic Affairs for three years. In succession she covered the state selling insurance, established her own insurance agency in 1981, became an ace insurance agent with Banker's Life, recruited students for the Minnesota School of Business, ran a bridal shop



LaVerne Wilger

from her home and finally in 1985 moved to Minneapolis. Like a fairy story, she remarried Dick and the music plays on.

At 62 LaVerne wielded her first tennis racquet under the tutelage of Ernie Greene. It was all drills, practices and batting a ball on a racquetball wall. In 1991 she joined the STPC gang and life hasn't been the same ever since. She did some modeling and stood the test of poise and beauty with her ever present charm. A fervent devotee of athletics, she advocates exercise "until you drop." LaVerne believes there's a Higher Being and that Fate is her guide. With the Golden Rule as her personal philosophy, this extremely affectionate and incurably romantic woman is simply a good woman.

Politically she echoes what so many people have openly said: "too many politicians are dishonest and don't represent the people as they should. Coming from the matriarch with three children and a like amount of grandchildren, voters take heed! Her advice to parents about the young: "get involved with your own and other deserving children." She decries the fact that parents today are too busy and don't take time to listen to their children. With husband Dick, the Wilgers spend six months in Arizona every winter.

I had hoped that LaVerne's last name would have been Wigler instead of Wilger. Initially then my first paragraph would have read: "A LaVerne Wigler is not a fishing lure, a squirmy worm nor an Egyptian belly dancer." Hey, amateur writers are weird, n'est ce pas?

So play on, LaVerne. At 67 you're a slice of heaven! ■

NEW MEMBER LESSONS AND MEMBER DRILLS

Day	Time	Who?	Cost	Skill rating	Instructor	Phone
Nicollet Tennis Center						
4005 Nicollet Ave, Minneapolis. 825-6844. Starts 9/9/96						
Mon	4:30-6 pm	MWV	\$2.00	all ratings	Ernie Greene	488-6359
					Jason Sowder	966-5133
Thurs	8:30-10 am	MWV	\$2.00	all ratings	Percy Hughes	545-7696
					Paul Stormo	944-6286
Williston Fitness & Sports						
14509 Minnetonka Dr, Minnetonka. 935-8638						
Tues	5:30-7 pm	MWV	\$2.00	all ratings	Connie Custodio	824-2569
Wooddale Recreation Center						
2122 Wooddale Dr, Woodbury. 735-6214						
Mon	8-9:30 pm		\$2.00		Lois Nordman	735-6214

Private Club Drills Open to STPC Members

Decathlon Athletic Club						
7800 Cedar Ave S, Bloomington						
Wed	9:30-10:30 am	MWV	\$6.00	3.0	Brian Christensen	854-0322
Fri	11:30-12:30 pm	MWV	\$6.00	3.0	Brian Christensen	854-0322
Nicollet Tennis Center						
4005 Nicollet Ave, Minneapolis. Note: Phone 825-6844 no later than the day before to sign up.						
Tues	9-10 am	MWV	\$5.00	3.0 and up	Rod Vaught	825-6844
Thurs	12-1 pm	MWV	\$5.00	2.5-3.0	Rod Vaught	825-6844
Wooddale Recreation Center						
2122 Wooddale Dr, Woodbury. Note: Space is limited. You must sign up.						
Wed	12-1 pm	MWV	\$7.00	All levels	Lois Nordman	735-6214

There is a \$2/session court rental fee for indoor lessons and drills. New members are welcome to take 12 (or more) lessons. After 12 lessons you will receive a free can of balls, a certificate of accomplishment and congratulations from the STPC president. *You must notify the instructor when you have completed 12 lessons!* The lessons are offered free, as part of your membership. Members are encouraged to attend lessons and drills at any time. **Skill rating:** If you need to know your skill rating, attend one of the lessons/drills and ask the instructor to rate you. If you have any questions, call the instructor.

Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A nonprofit corporation, P.O. Box 16163, Minneapolis, MN 55416. Voice mailbox at 612-659-6398.

Senior Tennis Times

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

Editor

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Email: nancykam@minn.net

1996-1997 Board of Directors

Sue Larson, President	929-4673
Matthew Little, Senior Vice President	773-8141
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Alan W. Uhl, Secretary	644-9810
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Firmin Alexander, Director	423-6851
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Carol Hall, Director	731-5127
Percy Hughes, Coordinator of Lessons	545-7696
H. Jack Dow, Founding President	

Contributing Cartoonist

Advertising

Send camera-ready art and payment to the editor by the 20th of the month for publication the following month. We can create an ad for you for a \$10 fee. Ad rates are:

full page (7 x 9 in)	\$100
half page (7 x 4½ in)	\$75
quarter page (3½ x 4½ in)	\$50
eighth page (3½ x 2¼ in)	\$30
classified ad (members only, max. 4 lines)	\$15
2-line ad (members only, 50 spaces/line)	free

Publication Deadline

Submit articles to the editor by the 20th of the month for publication the following month. All material submitted for publication is subject to editing.

Address Corrections

Please notify the Editor with any address corrections.

STPC Membership

As of October 1996, STPC membership totaled 1,632.

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Address Correction Requested

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