

# SENIOR ♦ TENNIS ♦ TIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE SENIOR TENNIS PLAYERS CLUB, INC.

JAN/FEB 2001

## Upcoming Events

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 15 | Election of new STPC board members. Submit candidates' names now! |
| May 4    | The Spring Luncheon and Annual Meeting                            |
| May 7    | The Jack Dow Tournament at Nicollet Tennis Center.                |
| June 6   | Bolger Clinic at Nicollet Tennis Center                           |

## Decathlon Club Burns

The Decathlon Club suffered a serious fire in December, which forced the closure of its tennis courts until March.

Until it's back in operation, arrangements have been made for many of the members who played at Decathlon to play at various branches of the Northwest Athletic Club.

Players, contact your Decathlon captain for information on where your group is playing. Also, there is a schedule on page N of this newsletter.

Chuck Supplee, facility coordinator for Decathlon, wishes to thank Ron Liddiard and Rod Macpherson for their help in obtaining court time at Northwest.

## A Coup for the Twin Cities

The Burnsville Northwest Club will be the site of the National Women's Over 50s Challenge Tennis competition. The USTA is looking for volunteers to help with the event.

The Challenge will be held from February 24 through March 3. Those interested in volunteering should call Randy Chamberlain at (952) 546-5474, ext. 331.

## Combined Issue! Watch Next Month for 2001 Roster!

This issue of the Times is for the period January/February 2001, one of the two combined issues put out by the newsletter staff. The other combined issue goes out in June/July.

Look for the 2001 Membership Roster in the March issue. If you haven't renewed your club dues by then, your name will not appear in the roster and you will no longer receive the newsletter—so if you haven't already, send in your dues!

## Club By-Laws Amended

On January 1, 2001, an amendment to Section 4.1 of the STPC By-Laws goes into effect. Section 4.1, *Management*, reads:

"The control, business, and management of the affairs of the Club shall be entrusted to and vested in a Board of Directors composed of 18 directors, including the Immediate Past President."

The amendment, designated Section 9.6 of the By-Laws, reads:

"This amendment reduces the number of members on the Board of Directors from 18 directors to 12 directors."

## Tennis in Japan

STPC members Paul Stormo, Ann Barten, Rosemary Moneta, Duane Hoecherl, and Elaine Carlson, were among a group of Minneapolis tennis players welcomed by Japanese tennis players at the Osaka airport November 6, 2000.

After a day of civic receptions and sightseeing, tennis matches were played outside on public courts mornings and afternoons.

The Japanese tennis players were 3.0 or better, and lots of fun. Besides the great tennis, especially memorable was the four nights' stay in the homes of host families, who took the Americans to their assigned courts in the mornings and came for them in the late afternoons.

The trip was arranged and led by Lois Sonstegard, fostered by the Minneapolis-Ibaraki City sister city program.



Twelve Minnesotan tennis players were greeted at Ibaraki Airport by the Japanese players who visited Minneapolis last year as part of the Minneapolis/Ibaraki sister city exchange.

## Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A nonprofit corporation, 3300 East Gate Road,  
Saint Anthony, MN 55418-2545 (612) 781-3271

### 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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Saint Anthony, MN 55418-2545.  
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### 2000-2001 Board of Directors

President: Helen Stecklein ..... 651/494-0648  
Past President: Bob Tischbein ..... 952/938-9348  
Treasurer: Ron Liddiard ..... 952/829-7530  
Secretary: Jean Murdock ..... 612/825-5826  
Membership: Janice Hagen ..... 952/941-4789  
Newsletter: Mary Kaminski ..... 612/781-3271

Roz Bernstein ..... 952/938-7698  
Bernice Hanson ..... 651/633-3276  
Liz Kamish ..... 651/735-2600  
Rod Macpherson ..... 952/474-9346  
Polly Maki ..... 952/472-7707  
Nick Pappas ..... 612/926-2254  
Don Schneider ..... 952/938-0121  
Jack Thommen ..... 952/888-2267  
Ronnae Wagner ..... 952/938-5785

### Director of Training:

Percy Hughes ..... 952/831-2872  
Founding President: H. Jack Dow

### Advertising

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

full page (7 x 9 in) ..... \$100  
half page (7 x 4.5 in) ..... \$75  
quarter page (3.5 x 4.5 in) ..... \$50  
eighth page (3.5 x 2.5 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 10th 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.

January/February 2001: Volume 14, Number 1

# a note from helen

by Helen Stecklein, STPC President

Here is January 2001, and each of us has  
had a great December, welcomed in the New  
Year, cleaned up all our decorations, written  
thank you notes, and organized everything  
we used to make it easier for next year. Wait  
a minute—who is that organized? We must  
have an award for you; I know it is not me.

It's not the beginning of a new year for  
the STPC officers, but it is time to plan ac-  
tivities for the club as our members renew  
their memberships for 2001. Thank you for  
your promptness, incidentally—to date there  
are 1,447 paid-up members for 2001.

We elect new board members in March.  
Bob Tischbein, the outgoing Past President,  
is chair of the nominating committee. Some  
of you may not know what board members  
do. There are certain areas that are the direct  
responsibility of a board member—these are  
listed on the newsletter's masthead. How-  
ever, there are many other activities spon-  
sored by the club that do not necessarily fall  
to a board member.

You do not have to be on the board to  
volunteer or be the chair of any of our com-  
mittees. I know there are some of you who

have ideas for new activities, new ways to do  
things, or would simply like to give us your  
two cents' worth. Rather than two cents, we  
would love your body. Please call Bob, me,  
or any other board member and volunteer  
or ask to be considered as a board member.  
New club members are more than welcome.

Our December party was well attended.  
There were four courts at 5 pm. and three  
courts at 7 pm. I want to thank Dot and  
Dean Guenther for chairing the two fall  
events (See? You don't have to take a respon-  
sibility for an entire year, you can volunteer  
for part of the year!) I also want to thank  
their helpers, Nancy and Elliot Karasov, Terry  
Kolb, and Kathy Hesse for her bars. Dotty  
suggested that next year individual clubs  
might wish to sponsor a party, as different  
areas of the Cities are more convenient for  
various players. So club facilitators, think  
about it. Are you proud of your facility and  
want to show it off?

Happy New Year to all of you—and  
snowbirds, do come back, your captains miss  
you. You don't know what fun you're miss-  
ing!

## Newsletter Submissions

To help make the newsletter as correct  
as possible, please submit all items in  
writing only, by mail, fax, or email.  
No phone call information will be ac-  
cepted. Send your submissions to:

Nancy Kaminski  
3300 East Gate Rd  
Saint Anthony, MN 55418-2545  
Fax: (612) 672-6083  
Email: nancykam@mediaone.net

If you have an idea you would like to  
see written up, or you would like to  
write an article, call Mary at  
(612) 781-3271. We need your help  
and input from writers and  
photographers.

## STPC Mission Statement:

"The primary purpose  
of the STPC is  
to provide tennis play-  
ing opportunities to  
people 50 and older  
for their mental,  
physical, and  
social well-being."

# VALENTINE PARTY WITH DRILLS!

Drills by Roger Boyer and STPC Pros  
at Nicollet Tennis Center  
Sunday, February 11, 2001  
(Registration Deadline: February 3)  
Just \$10!



Participate in drills from  
4-6 pm

Enjoy food, beverages, and  
camaraderie after the drills



clip and send!

Valentine Drills on Sunday, Feb. 11, 2001.  
Enclose check for \$10 made out to STPC and  
mail to Helen Stecklein, 2670 N Oxford St #211,  
Roseville, MN 55113. (651) 494-0648.

name \_\_\_\_\_

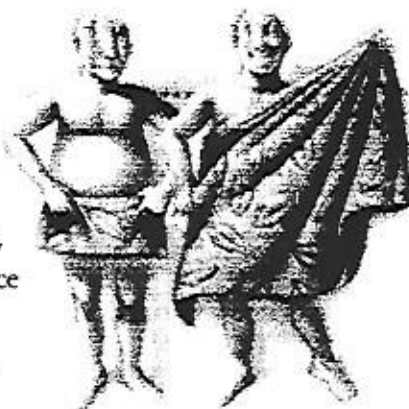
address \_\_\_\_\_

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UCARE FOR SENIORS

## IT FEELS GOOD TO KNOW YOU'RE COVERED.

Now there's an affordable  
way to get more out of your  
Medicare coverage. With  
UCare for Seniors, you get  
comprehensive Medicare coverage,  
generous benefits, freedom of choice  
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For more information  
about this surprisingly affordable  
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or hearing impaired 612-676-6810.

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MINNESOTA

UCare Minnesota is a Medicare+Choice organization with a Medicare contract. You must continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium. UCare for Seniors service areas include: Anoka, Carver, Chisago, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne and Washington counties, and certain zip codes in Mille Lacs (55374, 56330, 56363, 56313, 56353) and Wright (55328, 55390, 55349, 55363, 55373, 55358, 55343, 55376, 55341, 55301, 55362, 55380, 55320) counties.

*paid advertisement*

## Percy Hughes: A Pro in Both Tennis and Music

Percy Hughes received his first clarinet at the age of 11, and hasn't stopped playing since.

That first clarinet was a Christmas present. Since that December in 1933, he's given the Twin Cities jazz played on the alto, tenor, and soprano saxophone as well as the clarinet.

Percy has entertained audiences since 1946, when he formed the Percy Hughes Orchestra after being discharged from the army. They played all the campuses in the Twin Cities area, and club dates in both Minneapolis and Saint Paul.

In 1950 his group became regulars at the Flame, and later, in 1956, began a 17-year gig at the Point Supper Club.

Percy found, though, that it was difficult to make a living on music alone, so he began a 30-year career as a postal carrier.

While at the Post Office, he became the assistant chairman of the Post Office Sports Council. He noted a lack immediately—and started a tennis program.

Percy needed an instructor, so he took lessons from local tennis greats (including our pro, Ernie Greene) and in turn taught what he learned to the participants in the Post Office tennis program.

So for 26 years, Percy was leading an

orchestra five to six days a week, delivering mail five days a week, teaching tennis to his coworkers, and still finding time to have a home life. Of course, he only slept four or five hours a night to fit all these activities in.

After Percy retired from the Post Office in 1982, he heard about the Senior Tennis Players Club. He contacted the club founder, Jack Dow, and volunteered to teach beginners lessons.

As STPC grew, Percy decided he should become a certified tennis instructor. Accordingly, he applied to the USPTA for certification, and after passing the grueling four-hour written examination and the on-court test of his abilities to execute every stroke in tennis, Percy became the oldest pro to pass. He was 63 at the time, and the next-oldest person to pass was 37!

Percy continues to be very active on the Minnesota jazz scene. In 1987 he was inducted into the Minnesota Jazz Hall of Fame, and in 1996 into the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame. His music is part of a five-year exhibit at the Minnesota History Center entitled, "Sounds Good to Me: Music in Minnesota."

Percy still performs with his group at venues such as St. Paul's Artists' Quarter and



the Dakota, and teaches private lessons, presents programs and workshops at schools and colleges.

And of course, you can find him still teaching seniors the joys of tennis.

Thanks, Percy, for all you've given people in the Twin Cities, both culturally and athletically. We're all the better for it.

## New Certified Pros

The USPTA has certified Duane Ryman and Clayton Hughes as professional instructors, and they have been added to the STPC staff. Percy Hughes congratulates them on their achievement!

## Twelve Lesson Awards

Margarite Prawdzik, Cal Schadel, and Joyce Schadel are the latest STPC members to complete twelve lessons. Congratulations!

## Summer 2000 Team Tennis

Summer 2000 Team Tennis was great tennis!

Deni Sahr apologizes for the delay in reporting the results, but numerous moves put everything on hold. Better late than never!

The results, in order, are: Mel Baken, Marv Schneider, Deni Sahr, Bob Powless, and Ronnae Wagner.

Start thinking about joining in playing Team Tennis next summer. You'll have a great time!

## In Memoriam

**Michael Moynagh**, 42, of Stillwater, died peacefully at home December 4. He was the son of STPC member Darlene Moynagh. Our heartfelt sympathy to Darlene and her family at Michael's untimely death.

**Joan Slocum**, of Saint Louis Park, died on December 10, an 11-year survivor of breast cancer. She was the wife of STPC member Charles Slocum. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Chuck, his daughters, sons, and grandchildren.

**James Treanor**, of Minneapolis, died in October of a heart condition. Our sympathies to his family.

**John Vawter**, of Minneapolis, and an STPC member since 1993, died last March. Our sympathies are extended to his wife and family.



## New Locations for Decathlon Leagues

Due to the fire at Decathlon Athletic Club, the groups that played there have been relocated for the duration. Here is the new schedule.

If you have any questions, contact your captain or Chuck Supplee, the facility coordinator, at 952-884-2575.

### Northwest Athletic Club—98th Street

1001 W 98th Street, Bloomington

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Skill</u>	<u>Courts</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Monday	7:30–9:30 a	3.0 M	2	Ken Gjerde	612-827-2073
	9:30–11 a	2.5–3.0 W	3	Peg Feilzer	952-881-9485
Tuesday	8:30–10 a	3.0 W	3	Gen Gjerde	612-827-2073
	12–2 p	3.0–3.5 M	3	Rog Johanson	952-831-5507
	12–2 p	3.0	2	Chuck Supplee	952-884-2575
Wednesday	7:30–9:30 a	3.0–3.5 M	3	Cliff McMinn	952-888-4989
	9:30–11:30 a	2.5–3.0 M	2	Bob Struhl	651-714-0651
Thursday	12–2 p	3.0–3.5 M	3	Rog Johanson	952-831-5507
Friday	7:30–9:30 a	3.0–3.5 M	3	Cliff McMinn	952-888-4989
	12–2 p	3.0–3.5 MW	3	Mary Wenz	651-457-5347

### Northwest Athletic Club—Northwest Tennis

7300 Bush Lake Road, Edina

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Skill</u>	<u>Courts</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Tuesday	1–3 p	3.0 MW	3	Willie Prawdzik	612-869-1989

### Northwest Athletic Club—St. Louis Park

5525 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Skill</u>	<u>Courts</u>	<u>Captain</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Wednesday	8–10 a	3.0–3.5 M	3	Rod Macpherson	952-474-9346
Friday	12–2 p	3.0–3.5 M	4	Rod Macpherson	952-474-9346

## 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!

**Ballroom Dancing.** Refreshments, every Thurs. 1–3:30, Dick Macko's band, Lennox Comm. Ctr, 6715 Mtka Blvd. Questions? (612) 428-2052.

**Free!** Maple wood Hammond organ and bench, excellent condition. Call (952) 884-1961.

**For Sale.** Interested in Head racquets and clothing? Call Percy Hughes, our director of training, at (612) 831-2872.

**For Rent.** Available, 2 BR double bungalow on M'haha Pkwy near tennis courts. \$1000/mo. Member owned. Call (612) 822-6951.

**For Sale.** Wilson Pro Avenger 110 racquet, like new. \$50. (763) 533-9112.

**For Sale.** 2 BR 2½ BA townhouse w/free tennis, heated pool, near Scottsdale AZ. For info call (651) 631-1044.

**For Sale.** Edina condo, 2 BR 2 BA, beautiful move-in condition, pool, tennis, \$158,500. (952) 929-9299.

**For Rent.** Beach condo, S Seas Plantation, Captiva Is. FL, 2 BR, 2 BA, SI 6, free tennis. Avail. 2/2–2/9, (952) 944-8787.

**Wanted.** Singers for a senior's barbershop chorus. We sing at nursing homes, etc. Call Jim Anderson, (952) 897-1196.

## New Member Lessons and Drills

Court Location	Day	Time	Skill	Cost	Instructor	Phone
Nicollet Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave. Minneapolis. 612-825-6844	Monday	1:30-3 pm	all ratings, m/w	\$2.00	Ernie Greene Dave Earlewine	651-747-8345 952-470-4041
	Thursday	8:30-10 am	all ratings, m/w	\$2.00	Percy Hughes Paul Stormo	952-831-2872 952-944-6286
Oakdale Golf and Tennis 5115 Hadley Ave N Oakdale	Wednesday	12:30-2 pm	all ratings, m/w	\$2.00	Bob Smith	715-386-1319
Williston Fitness & Sports 14509 Minnetonka Dr, Minnetonka. 612-939-8370	Tuesday	5:30-7 pm	all ratings, m/w	\$2.00	Duane Ryman	952-922-7951

## Private Club Drills Open to STPC Members

Court Location	Day	Time	Skill	Cost	Instructor	Phone
Nicollet Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave, Minneapolis <i>Note: phone no later than the day before to sign up.</i>	Tuesday	9-10 am	3.0 and up, m/w	\$5.00	Rod Vaught	612-825-6844

New members are welcome to take 12 free lessons, after which you will receive a free can of balls, a certificate of accomplishment, and congratulations from the STPC president. **Notify the instructor when you have completed 12 lessons!** Members are encouraged to attend lessons and drills to improve your game.

**Skill Ratings:** To determine your skill rating, attend one of the lessons/drills and ask the instructor to rate you.

**Schedule Corrections:** Call (to be determined) for St. Paul/East Region or Rod Macpherson, (612) 474-9346 for the Minneapolis/West Region with your corrections.

## Senior Doubles for 3.0 and Above Players

STPC and Nicollet Tennis Center are again offering groups of three 1½-hour lessons starting in January. Lessons are limited to 8 senior players at a time.

The charge for each three lessons is \$20. Your check will reserve your place. The instructor is Abdul Idi, a Nicollet Tennis Center professional.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Check Enc. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE USE ONLY Date \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Staff initials \_\_\_\_\_

Select your preferred date. All times are 11:30 am.–12:30 am.

- ☐ January 3, 10, 17, 24
- ☐ February 7, 14, 21, 28
- ☐ March 7, 14, 21, 28
- ☐ April 4, 11, 18, 25

Send this form and payment to:

Nicollet Tennis Center  
4005 Nicollet Ave S  
Minneapolis, MN 55409  
(612) 825-6844



### STPC Board in Action

Once a month the STPC Board of Directors meets to administer the business of the club. In December they met at president Helen Stecklein's house for a combination meeting and lunch.

Pictured at left are board members (L–R) Don Schneider, Bob Tischbein, and Jean Murdoch. Below are (L–R) Mary Kaminski, Ronnae Wagner, Don Schneider, Jean Murdock, and Rod Macpherson.



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