



Senior Tennis Times

Newsletter of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

December
2008

STPC contributions

By Marv Schneider, Treasurer

Some members of Senior Tennis Players Club have asked questions about who our club has donated money to, and why. I hope to clarify that here. The Mission Statement of our Club (found on Page 2 of any of our newsletters) is: "The primary purpose of the STPC is to provide tennis playing opportunities to people 50 and older for their mental, physical, and social well-being, and to support the growth of tennis." We have donated to four non-profit organizations this year, all of whom are involved with tennis.

InnerCity Tennis (ICT) is a non-profit organization which teaches tennis, as well as sportsmanship, discipline, ambition, leadership, and many other life skills to inner city children in the Minneapolis area. About 100 members of STPC serve as Coach-Mentor-Tutors (CMTs) for the program, and it is sometimes questionable as to who has enjoyed it more, the kids or the CMTs. ICT is headquartered near 40th St. and Nicollet Ave. and provides the meeting room for the STPC Board of Directors, as well as a place to play tennis for many STPC members. ICT has served over 50,000 kids in the Minneapolis area. Nick Bollettieri, a member of the ICT Board of Directors, calls ICT the best program of its type in the country. As owner of the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy in Bradenton,

(Contributions—continued on page 2)

Have you sent in your renewal? Do it now! Don't miss out on 2009 play and our many special events.

Upcoming Events

Valentine's Party

February 14, 2009, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM
Mark your calendars! Entry form in January NL

Jack Dow Tournament

May 4-7, 2009 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM
More info on website—click Events
or call Ken Landro 763-544-9757 or
Jean Murdock 612-825-5826

Tennis events

By Bob Busch

Thank You

In this season of Thanksgiving we would like to extend a big **thank you** to some of those who contribute to the game we love.

- Ellen Doll, president of Support the Courts, for the new tennis courts at Pershing, Kenwood, Webber and Powderhorn parks in Minneapolis. This \$900,000 project provides new courts for Southwest, Edison and South high schools, InnerCity Tennis and other city tennis players.
- The Senior Tennis Players Club for donating a defibrillator to Fred Wells Tennis and Learning Center. It has been reported that the defibrillator donated to RSFTC about one year ago has already contributed to the saving of a senior player.
- STPC captains for coordinating play at our many courts in the Twin City area. Its great to see six courts of players start their week with Monday morning play at 7:30 AM at LTF-Flagship in Eden Prairie. Thanks to captains Rick VanDoren and Marv Schneider for a marvelous effort.
- Volunteers who deliver the program and help fund the Urban and InnerCity Tennis programs and the Fred Wells Tennis and Learning Center at Fort Snelling. It is satisfying to see many former program participants play tennis on high school varsity teams and participate in the state tennis tournament.
- Harlan and Ann Sween for coordinating another successful Grandparent/Grandchild tournament. Next July STPC will be sponsoring our 15th annual tournament.

High School Girls Tournament

Edina, the #2 seed, defeated a Rochester Mayo team that had ended Edina's 215-match winning streak in the first match of the season for both teams. The Hornets won their 12th Class 2A team championship in a row with a close 5-2 win. Baseline Tennis Center fans were treated to three matches that went three sets and two late rallies in other matches that were held off

(Tennis events—continued on page 5)

Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

A nonprofit corporation, P.O. Box 5525
Hopkins, MN 55343

On the web: www.seniortennismn.com

Senior Tennis Times

The Senior Tennis Times is published ten times annually by and for the members of the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.

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Advertising

Send by email or USPS to the newsletter editor by the 15th of the month for publication the following month. **Please send all payments to the newsletter editor.**

Ad rates (first month/additional months):

Full page (7.5x10)\$110/90

Half page (7.5x4.9)85/65

Quarter page (3.7x4.9)60/40

Eighth page (3.7x2.4)40/25

4-line ad (members only)10

2-line ad (members only) First three months: free, then \$5/issue.

Strip ads: \$40 first two inches; \$12 each additional inch.

Membership information changes, newsletter delivery problems, etc.,

can be made by writing Senior Tennis Players Club, P.O. Box 5525, Hopkins, MN 55343 or email to Ronnae Wagner: howard5326@aol.com

Membership total: 1533

December 2008,

Volume 21, Number 10



(Contributions—continued from page 1)

Florida, Nick has traveled extensively throughout the United States and the world, and has taught tennis to no less than nine players who became World #1.

St. Paul Urban Tennis (SPUT) is a similar type of non-profit organization which teaches inner city children in the St. Paul area. Some members of STPC are also involved with this program.

Fred Wells Tennis and Learning Center (FWT&LC) was founded at Fort Snelling by Fred Wells in 2002 and was called Fort Snelling Tennis and Learning Center until after Fred's death. Besides tennis, it provides computer learning skills for many children. It also provides a

place to play for many STPC members.

Support the Courts is an all-volunteer, grassroots fundraising campaign to rebuild tennis courts in Minneapolis public parks, focusing on courts that have youth programs and school programs that depend on them. Courts that have been involved are located at Kenwood, Pershing, Powderhorn, and Webber Parks. Inner City children are using all of these locations.

In 2008, STPC has donated \$3500 to ICT, \$3000 to SPUT, \$1500 to FWT&LC, and \$1000 to Support the Courts. In addition, STPC donated a defibrillator to ICT in 2007 and one to FWT&LC in 2008.

Seasons Greetings!

May you and all you love enjoy peace and happiness in this special time.



As a non-profit organization, the Senior Tennis Players Club gratefully accepts donations, memorials and estate gifts.



Mission Statement

The primary purpose of the STPC is to provide tennis playing opportunities to people 50 and older for their mental, physical, and social well-being; and to support the growth of tennis.

Newsletter Submissions

To help make the newsletter as correct as possible, please submit all items in writing only, by mail or email. The deadline is the 17th of the month for publication the following month. All material submitted for publication is subject to editing. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope if you want materials returned.

Send your submissions to: David Sommer, 3657 17th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407-2805.

Email: dsommer7@usiwireless.com.

We need help and input from writers, artists, and photographers.

Percy's tennis rhythms



By Percy Hughes

Indoor tennis it is for quite a few months, team, and I don't think any Minnesota players will do any squawking, huh. Snow and tennis balls do not team up too well. Now is a good time to keep your eye on our newsletter, follow our editor

David Sommer's good advice, such as getting your rating for the 2009 tournaments you plan on playing, number one being the **Jack Dow Tournament**, held in early spring. Please call me after David has posted the rating times, dates, and where. My number: 612-866-1102. I'll make it work for you.

Saturday, November 15, 2008, at the Minnesota Valley Country Club in Bloomington, the 2008 USTA Northern Awards Dinner was held. I can honestly say that the evening's affair was as great as the National Awards held in Naples, Florida, earlier this year. Cheers to **Lisa Mushett** (Staff Liaison) and her staff for doing

such a wonderful, successful program. It was wonderful to be there when our dear friend, **Mike Vidmar**, received our **Jack Dow Adult Development Award** for 2008. Mike is the manager of RSFTC, an all around good guy, and a fine tennis player. Congratulations, Mike—we'll keep an eye on your age. ☺ ☺ ☺

Now that the price of gas is lower, yours truly is going to start checking our classes at all the clubs where we give lessons, meeting and introducing myself (checking for membership) also. Unfortunately, I seldom hear any of our Pros asking students if they are members! That's not too nice, as we must remember that our salaries depend on membership volume. Time to tell all of you, **no foot faults!**

Percy

Valentine tennis party

Look for entry form in January newsletter. It will also be on our website by December 1.

Band Aid Bunch

The Williston Center is offering a one hour class at 3:00 every Thursday starting December 4 to help your aching bones and to allow you to get back on the tennis courts.

The class will be taught by a tennis pro who will give

you sympathy and a bench will be just one foot away. Cost is \$8 for non-members of the Williston Center (\$7 for Williston members). For reservations, call the front desk at Williston at 952-939-8370. Walk-ins welcome.

Williston Center is at 14509 Minnetonka Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55345.

Players wanted

Crosstown, Tuesday evenings 3.25 MW

Great opportunity for anyone who can't play days. Need regulars and subs for group that plays at Lifetime Crosstown, Tuesdays 9:00-10:30 PM. Just \$10/session. Contact David Houghton, 612-220-6780 or email dasu100@msn.com.

Northern suburbs Spring Lake Park

Wanted: 3.0+ MW subs and players for Thursdays 8:30-10:30 AM at Spring Lake Park's Public Indoor Tennis facility. Call Mike Schleeter at 651-631-2482. More courts and drills: contact Gladys Murray of STPC at 651-483-2850, or owner Tim Jachymowski at 763-231-3109. Website: PublicIndoorTennis.com.

Want ads

These two-liner want ads are available to all STPC members. Your ad is free for three issues. After that, there is a charge of \$5 per publication.



Interested in Head racquets & clothing? Consult Percy Hughes 612-866-1102 for what's best for you.

Expert Racquet service. Fred Jurewicz (952) 496-1018 (H); (612) 250-3185. *10% STPC discount.*

Rent Jan-Feb, spacious Carefree, AZ townhouse 2BR,

2½BA, garage, furnished, spa, free tennis 651-631-1044.

Rent: Villages FL. Activities for everyone. 2BR 2BA house \$1000/mo. Avail Sept-Dec. Vern 952-935-5670.

Handyman: Get that To-Do list taken care of. Basic repairs and maintenance. Friendly, affordable and flexible. SW Metro area. Bob Thompson, 952-929-0844 / rthompson123@gmail.com.

For Sale: Cornerstone Co-op 1 or 2 BR units for Seniors. Amenities, balconies, garages, in unit laundry, storage, cable TV. 3790 Lawndale Lane N, Plymouth, MN. 763-478-4661 for tour.

●● STPC lessons and drills—all levels ●●

Some court locations are subject to change during the season. No reservations necessary.

Location	Day	Time	Skill	Cost	Instructor	Phone
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center 4005 Nicollet Ave S Minneapolis 612-825-6844	Mon	10:00-11:00 "Owies"	All	\$7.50	Dilcia Pederson	612-824-6099
	Tue	1:30-3:00 PM	All	\$5.00	Dilcia Pederson	612-824-6099
					Duncan Welty	952-933-8592
	Thu	8:30-10:00AM	All	\$5.00	Percy Hughes	612-866-1102
Paul Stormo					952-944-6286	
Fred Wells Tennis and Education Center. 100 Federal Drive, Minneapolis	Tue	11:00-12:30	All	\$5.00	Tony Rodriguez	651-246-0077
Williston Fitness & Sports 14509 Minnetonka Drive Minnetonka 952-939-8370	Wed	5:30-7:00PM	All	\$5.00	Duane Ryman	612-865-9517
PublicIndoorTennis.Com 7833 Highway 65 N.E. Spring Lake Park, MN 55432	Fri	1:00-2:30 PM	All	\$5.00	Tony Larson	303-808-7809

Free or low-cost lessons* are offered as part of your STPC membership. New members are encouraged to take advantage of them.

* Lessons are free during outdoor season; they cost \$5 when indoor (to pay for court time). You may continue taking lessons as long as you are a member of the club.

●● Private Club Drills Open to STPC Members ●●

Location	Day	Cost	Time	Phone
Reed-Sweatt Family Tennis Center* 4005 Nicollet Ave S, Minneapolis	Tue Thu	\$8.00	9:00-10:00 AM	612-825-6844 Call for reservation.

***Additional classes for all skill levels available, open to seniors and younger players.**

Tennis: live longer & better

From the USTA Northern Section magazine

Why play tennis? Well, of course, it's fun. But several studies show that your cost of playing saves lots more \$\$\$ in doctor bills!

- People who participate in tennis three hours per week, at a moderately vigorous intensity, cut in half their risk of death from any cause, according to the late **Dr. Ralph Paffenbarger**, an internationally recognized exercise authority who studied more than 10,000 people for 20 years.
- Tennis players scored higher in vigor, optimism and self-esteem while scoring lower in depression, anger, confusion, anxiety and tension than other

athletes and non-athletes, according to **Dr. Joan Finn** and colleagues at Southern Connecticut State University.

- Since tennis requires alertness and tactical thinking, it may generate new connections between nerves in the brain and promote a lifetime of continuing development of the brain, reported scientists at the University of Illinois.
- Tennis outperforms golf and most other sports in developing positive personality characteristics, according to **Dr. Jim Gavin**, author of "The Exercise Habit."
- Competitive tennis burns more calories than aerobics or cycling, according to studies in caloric expenditures.

In Memory...



Jack Thommen

Jack Thommen, an educator and a founder of the InnerCity Tennis program for children, died October 22 in Edina at 80. Jack was a member of Senior Tennis 1983-2004.

“He always said tennis did so much for me that I wanted to share it with other young people,” said his son Wade of Edina.

He helped lead InnerCity Tennis for at least 20 years and would personally pay for promising young players to attend a tennis summer camp at Gustavus Adolphus College, said Steve Wilkinson, Gustavus’ tennis coach and the camp director. “He strongly believed that the mind and body went together, and he was interested in their education and their sports,” said Wilkinson.

Greg Wicklund of Edina, head tennis pro at the Edina Country Club, said Thommen was always giving balls and racquets to children. Wicklund said that Thom-

men not only managed the parks program, but also would get out on the court and teach. “He was always so enthusiastic, and he cared about all the kids.”

In the 1930s, growing up in Minneapolis, neighborhood friends had hired famed player Bobby Riggs to give them tennis lessons. They invited Thommen to join in. When he was in high school, he was a championship player. After graduating in 1946 from South-west High School in Minneapolis, he joined the Army Air Force, assigned to play on a military team.

After military service, he played for Gustavus Adolphus, taking the 1949 MIAC singles championship. During the 1940s, he was a nationally ranked player, according to his family.

He completed a bachelor’s degree in education at the University of Minnesota, playing tennis in the Big Ten and serving as the team captain. He later earned a master’s degree in education from the university.

In 1953, he joined the Minneapolis public schools, teaching elementary and junior high school, and later becoming an administrator.

He was inducted into the United States Tennis Association Northern Section Hall of Fame and the Gustavus Adolphus Tennis Hall of Fame.

(Tennis events—continued from page 1)

by the Hornets.

In Class 1A, Rochester Lourdes defeated the 2007 state champion, Mounds Park Academy 4-3. The Lourdes team has won 11 of the past 12 Class 1A Championships. They were prevented from continuing their championship domination in 2007 due to an administrative error with the line-up by coach Kevin Rust.

In individual singles play in Class 1A, Alexa Palen of Rochester Lourdes defeated Aby Edin of Staples-Motley 6-0, 6-0 to win the 19th State Championship for the Palen family since 1997. Amber Washington and Katie Roach of Mounds Park Academy defeated Danielle Munsterman and Mallory Shellum of St James 6-1, 5-7, 6-4.

Aria Lambert of Minnetonka, the USTA #1-ranked 16 and under in the Northern Region defeated Makenna Borg of Eden Prairie 6-0, 6-1 to win the Class 2A Singles Championship. The win by Lambert, who is also ranked #49 in the nation in her age group, completed an undefeated high school season. Rochester Mayo’s Emily Renault and Annemarie Ryn defeated

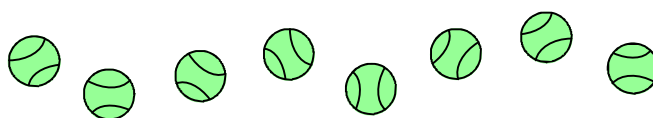
Maria Bryan and Caroline Ward of Edina 6-2, 6-4 to win the state Class 2A doubles championship.

Other Results

John Kauss of Gustavus won the ITA Division III Singles Championship by defeating Chris Goodwin of Emory 6-2, 6-3. This tournament was played in Mobile, Alabama in mid-October.

The USTA’s 60 age division team finished fifth in the ITF World Championships on October 18 at Club Ali Bey Belek in Turkey. David Nash of Bloomington, a member of the Minnesota Tennis Hall of Fame, was a member of this Von Cramm Cup team that defeated Switzerland for fifth place.

Sebastian Gallego, a Minnesota Gopher sophomore, lost the Big Ten singles Championship to Christian Bierich 6-3, 6-4 in Madison, Wisconsin in early November. Gallego reached the final by winning all five of his early round matches in straight sets. In the semifinal match Gallego defeated his doubles partner and fellow teammate Dino Bilankov 6-1, 6-4.



David Foster Wallace (1962-2008): an appreciation

By Bill Cosgrove

David Foster Wallace died September 12, 2008. You may never have heard of him, but he knew you—the same way he knew all of us who play tennis with varying degrees of proficiency at different times of our lives. I hope you'll want to know more about him after you read this appreciation.

Wallace committed suicide. He hung himself in his Claremont, CA home at age 46. He was a creative writing professor at Pomona College and heralded as the most gifted and dynamic young writer of our time. A tormented genius as a writer, he was the winner of a MacArthur Fellowship, the so-called “genius” grant.

But that's not why you need to hear about what he did and what he wrote during his relatively short, aborted life. This is why: he wrote the single best appreciation of the sport of tennis you'll ever read, which is also an entertaining and cleverly risqué survey of modern tennis.

Actually, he worked tennis-playing into many of his works, including his best-known, break-through, Moby Dick length, doorstep-sized, bruiser of a novel *Infinite Jest* (1996). But don't try to read *Infinite Jest* yet. First read his essay in “Esquire” July 1996 entitled “The String Theory.” As I look over parts of it right now, I want to reread the whole thing again today instead of writing this essay. It's that good.

Here's where you can access it:

<http://www.esquire.com/features/sports/the-string-theory-0796>. (This link is also in the Links section of our Senior Tennis website.) It's worth noting here that when Wallace included this piece in his 1997 essay collection “A Supposedly Fun Thing I'll Never Do Again” he retitled it “Tennis Player Michael Joyce's Professional Artistry as a Paradigm of Certain Stuff about Choice, Freedom, Discipline, Joy, Grotesquerie, and Human Completeness.” And he made a number of changes and deletions in the book version that reduced considerably the risqué factor as well as the direct, blunt, salty language and unvarnished judgments of the original Esquire essay. I'll draw my samples from this more-fun-to-read Esquire version.

Consider its original subtitle: “What happens when all of a man's intelligence and athleticism is focused on placing a fuzzy yellow ball where his opponent is not? An obsessive inquiry into the physics and metaphysics of tennis.”

The man in question is one Michael Joyce who in 1996 was ranked #79 on the ATP Tour, was the no. 1 junior in the U.S. in 1991, and a finalist at Junior Wimbledon that year where he lost to Thomas Enqvist. Presently he coaches Maria Sharapova.

Listen to Wallace's tribute to Joyce's predator-like quickness when he “moves in and takes the ball on the rise and hits a backhand cross so tightly angled that nobody alive could get to it. This is mind-bogglingly difficult to do when the ball's hit hard. If we can assume you've played Little League or sandlot ball or something, imagine the hardest hit grounder of all time coming at you at shortstop, and you not standing and waiting to knock it down but actually of your own free will running forward *toward* the grounder, then trying not just to catch it in a big glove but to strike it hard and reverse its direction and send it someplace frightfully specific and very far away—this comes close.”

In commenting early on the sweat factor in tournament tennis and the surprisingly large amounts of water players drink, Wallace includes the following in one of his many ironic footnotes: “Most players I spoke with confirmed, by the way, that Gatorade and All-Sport and Boost and all those pricey sports drinks are mostly BS, that salt and carbs at table and small lakes of daily H₂O are the way to go. The players who didn't confirm this turned out to be players who had endorsement deals with some pricey-sports-drink manufacturer, but I personally saw at least one player dumping out his bottled pricey electrolyte contents and replacing them with good old water for his match.”

Wallace ascribes the invention of the relatively new “power baseline game” to Jimmy Connors in the '70s, which was then perfected by Ivan Lendl in the '80s and Agassi in the '90s. It has replaced the classic “serve-and-volley” and “defensive baseline” style of play almost completely. So effective is it, he says, that “in the tactical language of boxing,” it “allows a player, in effect, to punch his opponent all the way from his stool in the corner; it changes absolutely everything, and the analytic geometry of these changes would look like the worst calculus final you ever had in your life.” And Wallace calls the forehand of many of these power baseliners like Agassi and Courier “a weapon of near-Wagnerian aggression and power.”

He blames this new playing style for the waning of interest in tennis: “One answer to why public interest in men's tennis has been on the wane in recent years [this

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

is 1996, remember] is an essential and unpretty *thuggishness* about the power-baseline style that's become dominant on the tour. Watch Agassi closely sometime—for so small a man and so great a player, he's amazingly absent of finesse, with movements that look more like a heavy metal musician's than an athlete's."

John McEnroe, on the other hand, "was arguably the best serve-and-volley man of all time, but then McEnroe was an exception to pretty much every predictive norm there was. At his peak (say 1980 to 1984), he was the greatest tennis player who ever lived—the most beautiful, the most tormented: a genius. For me, watching McEnroe don a blue polyester blazer and do stiff lame truistic color commentary for TV is like watching Faulkner do a Gap ad." John McEnroe and William Faulkner in the same sentence—priceless.

But perhaps the single most impressive and unforgettable section is a single paragraph in which Wallace makes the most thorough case for the sport of tennis I've ever read anywhere. Like the entire essay, this one paragraph ranges from the physics and geometry of shot-making to the metaphysics of human consciousness.

It begins with a surprising claim for which he nonetheless makes a strong case: "I submit that tennis is the most beautiful sport there is and also the most demanding. It requires body control, hand-eye coordination, quickness, flat-out speed, endurance, and that weird mixture of caution and abandon we call courage. It also requires smarts. Just one single shot in one exchange in one point in a high-level match is a

nightmare of mechanical variables."

What he calls the "tree of variables and determinants" becomes so increasingly great and complex during a single rally that "The sort of thinking involved is the sort that can be done only by a living and highly conscious entity, and then can *really* be done only unconsciously, i.e., by fusing talent with repetition to such an extent that the variables are combined and controlled without conscious thought."

Then he ends this compelling paragraph with a flat, Hemingwayesque statement that completes his case for tennis as a sport which fully engages its players in all their physical and metaphysical dimensions: "In other words, serious tennis is a kind of art."

But don't necessarily read Wallace's essay for those things, as compelling and interesting as they are. Read it because it is one of the most entertaining and enlightening descriptions of what it's like to spend time on a tennis court running around in shorts playing a game.

As for David Foster Wallace himself and this appreciation of him, let his final elegiac words about Michael Joyce serve as his own final epitaph:

"Joyce is, in other words, a complete man though in a grotesquely limited way. But he wants more. He wants to be the best, to have his name known... He wants this and will pay to have it—to pursue it, to let it define him—and will pay up with the regretless cheer of a man for whom issues of choice became irrelevant a long time ago. Already for Joyce, at twenty-two, it's too late for anything else; he's invested too much, is in too deep. I think he's both lucky and unlucky. He will say he is happy and mean it. Wish him well."

I wish you well, David Foster Wallace. R.I.P.

Ruttger's retreat

By Susan Rosenberger

Our Crosstown group plays Monday mornings 7:30-9:00. At the end of each season, we all go to Ruttger's Resort for more tennis and other R&R.

Bottom row (kneeling), left to right: Muggsy Ferber, Sharon Engel, Noonie Shermock, Rita Welch.

Top row: Erlene Herr, Ginny Morse, Peg Woellner, Lois Kukuk, Joanne Schmid, Libby Hargrove, Susan Rosenberger, Sally Enstrom, Jane Tischbein.



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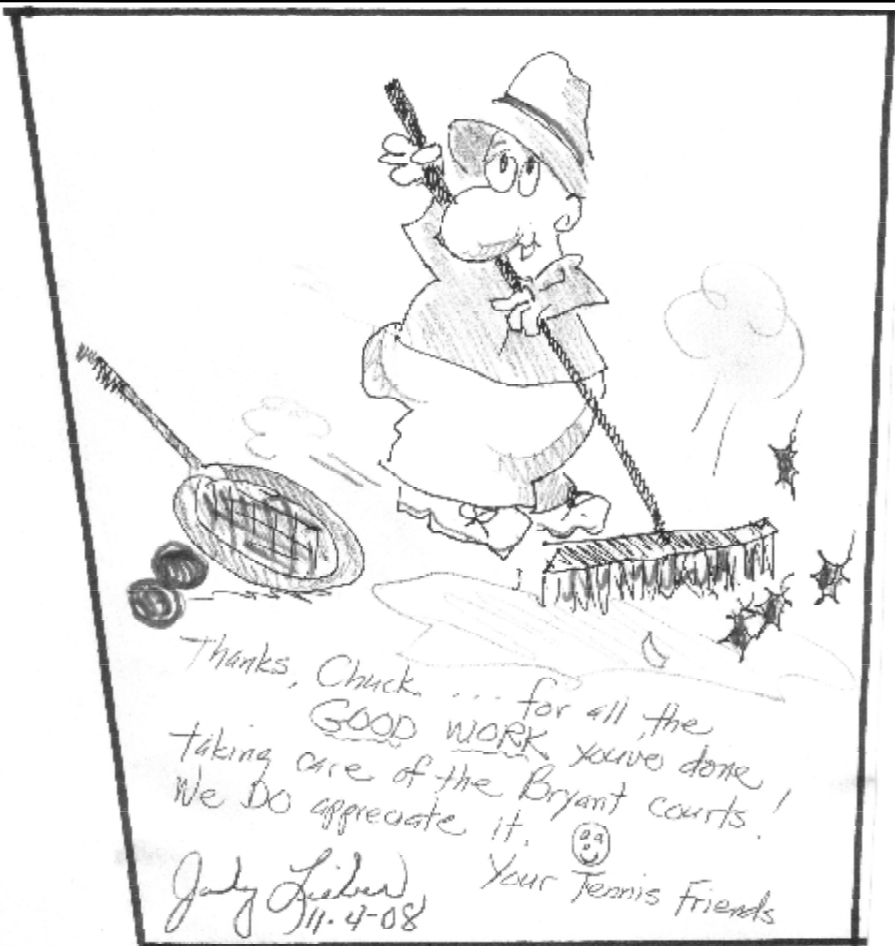
Bryant group

By Chuck Supplee

Judy Lieber did this caricature of me cleaning the courts. It's a pleasure to captain this group with Ray Ranallo.

We've had a great spring/summer/fall at 85th and Bryant Tuesday & Thursday mornings. The players are wonderful—such good sports—they come out to the courts even in chilly weather! What a great bunch!

Editor's note: Need a caricature? Our own Judy Lieber is really good. We've previously published her caricatures of Jack Don, plus a cartoon to illustrate a Tips article.





**Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc.
New Member Application
January 1 – December 31**

Member Benefits

Convenient locations
Year-round play
Meet people – make friends
Volunteer opportunities
Tournaments & tennis parties
Newsletter and Roster
Support youth tennis
Keep in great physical shape
Tennis lessons and drills
Web site

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Primary Phone _____

Other Phone _____

Email _____

Male Female

Work experience _____

Skills / hobbies _____

Newsletter delivery: US mail Email No newsletter needed
(Newsletter also available on our website)

Roster delivery in: March May No roster needed

Tennis rating 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5
(definitions next page)

Age group 50-59 60-69 70-79 80+

I would like to help with: Annual meeting Board member
 Tennis parties Tournaments

Annual Dues: \$25 (after September 1 includes following year)

Please sign and return with check payable to STPC to
Dottie Gardner
5145 Portland Av S
Minneapolis, MN 55417

WNL

See other side for directions to help you fill this out.

Any suggestions for improving our program, please write on the back of this sheet.

Membership Condition:

As a condition of my membership, I agree that any participation by me in the activities of, or sponsored by, the Senior Tennis Players Club, Inc. (STPC), a nonprofit organization, including, but without limitation, activities such as tennis lessons, clinics, drills, rating sessions, camps, trips, playing in or attending tennis games, tournaments, groups or social events, shall be at my sole risk; and I hereby release and hold harmless STPC and its officers, directors, members, employees, agents, tennis pros, tennis clubs, courts and facilities used or licensed by STPC, and all independent contactors with STPC (all being "Associated Others") for all claims of damage, whether due to injuries to person or property; to any direction, conduct, scheduling or claimed discrimination, nonfeasance or malfeasance, or otherwise, arising out of, or occurring in connection with, any such activities or conduct of STPC or such Associated Others.

Signature **X** _____ **Date** _____

This form must be signed and dated

Revised 11/13/2008

Some frequently asked questions:

Q. Why the Email choice on Newsletter delivery?

A. If you have email, you can receive your newsletter this way. You get it 15-20 days sooner, and you save the club money. Not recommended for dial-up.

Q. Why the choices on Roster Delivery?

A. You can get your Roster in March, May, or not at all. The “None” choice is for couples—one of you can receive the Roster and share it. The “May” choice is mostly for snowbirds. If you are having your mail forwarded when the Roster is mailed, it is trashed by USPS, because it is sent as bulk mail. So we’re giving the choice of May delivery to those who anticipate being gone in March.

Q. What is “Primary phone” and “Other phone”?

A. “Primary phone” is the phone you want people to try first. “Other phone” is an alternate phone number.

Q. Why do we want your email address?

A. Four or five times this past year we’ve sent email to members alerting them to things like **free tickets** to Twins games or openings in one of our special events. We don’t use emails much, so it’s not “junk”. We respect your privacy!

Q. Why “Work experience” & “Skills/Hobbies”?

A. We enter this in our database, so when we need to find members with special talents we can find you!

Q. Why “Age group”?

A. We want to understand our members’ age distribution so we can see if we are finding enough new (younger) members, and also to be sure our programs meet the needs of our various age groups.

Q. Why the questions about volunteering?

A. STPC depends on its members to do the work of the organization. We need to know where you would like to help.

Mission Statement

The primary purpose of the STPC is to provide tennis playing opportunities to people 50 and older for their mental, physical, and social well-being; and to support the growth of tennis.

Your comments?

Rating Definitions

1.0 You are just starting to play tennis.

1.5 You have limited experience and are working primarily on getting the ball in play.

2.0 You lack court experience and your strokes need developing. You are familiar with the basic positions for singles and doubles play.

2.5 You are learning to judge where the ball is going, although your court coverage is limited. You can sustain a short rally of slow pace with other players of the same ability.

3.0 You are fairly consistent when hitting medium-paced shots, but are not comfortable with all strokes and lack execution when trying for directional control, depth, or power. Your most common doubles formation is one-up, one-back.

3.5 You have achieved improved stroke dependability

with directional control on moderate shots, but need to develop depth and variety. You exhibit more aggressive net play, have improved court coverage and are developing teamwork in doubles.

4.0 You have dependable strokes, including directional control and depth on both forehand and backhand sides on moderate-paced shots. You can use lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys with some success and occasionally force errors when serving. Rallies may be lost due to impatience. Teamwork in doubles is evident.

4.5 You have developed your use of power and spin and can handle pace. You have sound footwork, can control depth of shots, and attempt to vary game plan according to your opponents. You can hit first serves with power and accuracy and place the second serve. You tend to over-hit on difficult shots. Aggressive net play is common in doubles.