



Courtside Chatter

THE PLACE FOR TENNIS IN VENICE

512 N. Auburn Road, Venice, Florida 34292

Phone 941-485-2000

December 2023

Email: Courtsidetc@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.courtsidetennisclub.com>

Pro's Points



Courtside Family Members,

One of the things that I like about teaching tennis lessons is that I get to meet different people. Just before this past Thanksgiving I gave a lesson to a non-member and it's one that I will never forget.

A non-member texted me and said that her and her daughter would be in town for a few days and they would like a tennis lesson, the mom had played tennis many years ago, but her daughter was just starting tennis. The lesson went great but the daughter had to leave the next day, so I scheduled another less with just the mom.

During the second lesson I found out that her and her husband were both retired teachers. I told her that both of my parents had also been teachers, her husband taught physical education (my mom too had taught physical education), I asked her what she had taught, and she said that she was an art teacher (I was an art major in college), so it seems that our families had a lot in common. When I asked her where she had taught, our conversation took a turn that I would never have guessed and will never forget.

She said that she had been the art teacher at Sandy Hook Elementary school and was there during the tragedy in 2012. My heart sank, I can't imagine being in a situation like that and with trying to cope with the fallout that a tragedy like that has on the community and the entire nation.

It was definitely a reminder...a reminder that no matter what you are going through, you need to be grateful for what you have and to focus on the positive things in life. You never know what setbacks life will bring your way, and you don't know what others are dealing with. We are lucky to have Courtside, and lucky to be a part of a club where members truly care about others.

Matt Liverman
Tennis Director/Head Tennis Professional

News from the Board

Courtside Family Members,

We continue to discuss and monitor court conditions, capital projects and future improvements, as well as updates to PlaybyPoint.

Our committees have been hard at work.

The grounds and landscaping committee has been diligently trimming, weeding, and planting to maintain the beauty of our property. Please take note of the palms by the front entrance, which add a touch of elegance to our club.

The social committee continues to organize the popular First Friday's get-together. They also recently hosted a successful Welcome Back Round Robin, bringing members together for a fun-filled day of tennis.

We are delighted to announce that the fundraising committee has finalized the 2023-2024 Courtside Calendar, which will feature pictures capturing the essence of Courtside Tennis Club. Be sure to keep an eye out for its release, as it promises to be a fun keepsake.

In our commitment to maintaining great court conditions, we have ordered new drag-behind brushes with line scrubs for members to use. When received they will be placed out on the courts for members who wish to brush the courts before or after play. We believe this will enhance the overall playing experience for everyone.

Hope to see everyone at our Annual Holiday Tennis Ball on December 9th at the Plantation Golf and Country Club. Join us for an evening of dinner, dancing, and a silent art auction as we celebrate the joy of tennis and the holiday season.

Lastly, please note that our next board meeting has been re-scheduled from Wednesday to Thursday, December 14th at 1:00 due to scheduling conflicts with board members.

Wishing you joy and Peace this Holiday Season.
Keep enjoying the game we love!

Tom Lanigan

Courtside Board of Directors

Tom Lanigan—President
Debbie Cavness—Vice President
Lee Scott—Treasurer
Liz Morris—Secretary

Jim Flynn
Sandy Murphy
Sally Pym



Kristi Laws

New Members

December Birthdays

Kathryn Moen 1

Laura Carey 2

Bryan Walker 3

Sean Frisbee 8

Grace Mahoney 12

Malcolm Heslop 17

Camille Rutan 21

Nancy Behning 28

Renee Ehlers 28

Mary Jane (MJ) Obrien 30

Barry Weir 31

For your Information

The monthly Courtside Board of Directors Meeting Minutes is posted every month on the bulletin board next to the kitchen window marked Board Meeting Material.

Also, there is a copy of the latest Courtside rules & regulations of the club on the bulletin board as well.

REMINDER

Just a reminder that there is a defibrillator on the porch next to the office door in case of an emergency.



“Quote of the Month”

December-The month of joy, happiness and
to finish what you started.



Remember!

Tuesday—Late Bird Clinic with Ula 11:00-12:00

Wednesday— Early Bird Clinic with Matt-8:00-9:00

Wednesday—Men’s Weekly Clinic with Matt-9:00-10:00

Thursday—Shot of the Week with Ula 11:00-12:00

Call the office and reserve a spot or sign up on the bulletin board outside the office.

\$10.00 members—\$15.00 non-members

Dates to Remember

Mark your calendar!!

Dec. 1st-Happy First of the Month Friday @
Courtside
Sat. December 9th-Courtside’s Holiday Party

Thursday Dec. 14th—Board Meeting @ 2:00

Monday Dec. 25th—Christmas Holiday
(Office will be closed)



After School Junior Tennis Program

There will no Junior Tennis Program the week of 12/21-1/7 2024 (Winter Break)

We will resume on 1/9/2024

Tuesday & Thursday **Ages: 8 & up** **\$15.00 per session per child**
4:00-5:30

Sign up sheets are in the office or please call 941-485-2000 for more information.

On-Line Reservation 8:00 am., 9:30 am., or 11:00 am

BOOK/CALL ON

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

TO PLAY ON THE FOLLOWING:

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

The on-line reservation system will now be open all year around including all holidays.

Sunday (Office is Closed)

*Court 4 is reserved for lessons & clinics

*Court 5—when available

*During League Play ladies and men will use designated courts as assigned by the Director of Tennis, beginning at noon.

Meet Your Courtside Family!

Philippe & Nina Bouclainville

Philippe and I arrived in Venice in April of last year, and within a few days, we met Carolyn Hammond in our neighborhood who recommended Courtside to us. This was the beginning of tennis for Philippe, and it has become an almost daily obsession for both of us. I played tennis in New York City, where we lived for 24 years before relocating to Florida (we were in France before that), but it was never more than a once-a-week thing.

Philippe was an accomplished athlete in his youth, competing for championships in track and field in France. He was also on the NYC European handball team for 10 years.

I played volleyball for several years. Philippe and I first met at a gym in Paris. If only we hadn't waited so long to take up tennis...

We have two daughters, born in France, and presently living in London and Los Angeles. We wish they were closer, but we enjoy visiting them.

Coming from Europe (I grew up in Germany before moving to France at age 17), we have travelled extensively. Our favorite vacation places are France, Italy, Austria and Scotland. With a sibling living in South Africa, we have been there a few times and just love it. This is a place we highly recommend to anyone seeking a bit of adventure in a place that doesn't resemble anything in North America.

Philippe was an investment banker his entire career, loved it, and is even happier having retired early.

I worked for the Austrian crystal manufacturer, Swarovski, while living in Paris, and managed a creative team in product design. This ended when I had my second child.

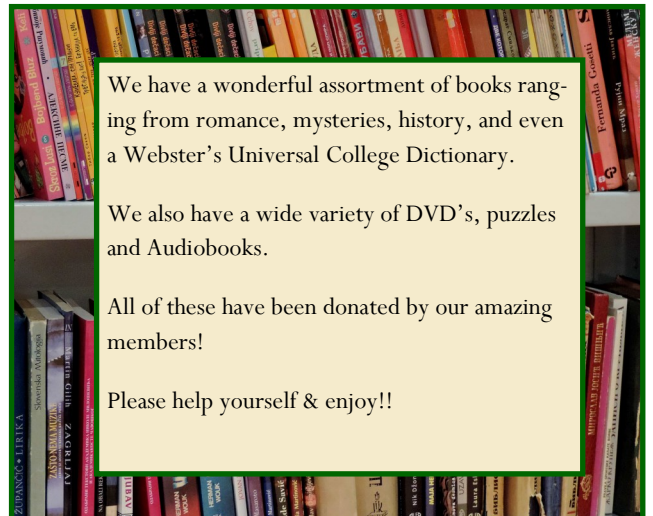
Most people do not know that Philippe was in the army for seven years and was a very skilled sharpshooter. He is a gifted photographer and loves woodwork, too. Some of our furniture and lamps are "homemade."

I speak three languages fluently and also play the piano. When I am not playing tennis, I love to bake and cook. I am also a cinephile who loves talking about movies.

The best thing about us is our love of people and general curiosity. Having lived in different cultures has taught us a lot, and there is something interesting in any person you meet, no matter where.



Courtside's Library



We have a wonderful assortment of books ranging from romance, mysteries, history, and even a Webster's Universal College Dictionary.

We also have a wide variety of DVD's, puzzles and Audiobooks.

All of these have been donated by our amazing members!

Please help yourself & enjoy!!



Tai Chi for Health
Every Tuesday 2:00-3:00 pm

I am a certified Tai Chi instructor in Traditional Yang Short Form and would like to offer free Tai Chi sessions to interested Courtside members.

Depending on the number of participants, we can meet outside either under the trees or on the cement area by the swimming pool. Each class will begin with Qui Gong breathing exercises and focus on practicing Yang style traditional short form.

Tai Chi originated in ancient China as a marshal art form. Today it is often practiced at a slow speed to promote health and wellness. Clinical studies have shown consistent Tai Chi practice improves strength, flexibility, balance, and overall fitness through low impact easily learned choreographed movements.

Tai Chi integrates the mind, body and spirit. It emphasizes harmony, balance, and change while helping us use our breath and movements to promote relaxation and a sense of wellbeing. For me Tai Chi is meditation in motion.

Tai Chi can be practiced anywhere. You don't need any special equipment. Wear comfortable clothes you can move freely in and secure footwear.

Join us on Tuesdays at 2:00. Beginners are always welcome. Call Gail Lanigan (815) 494-8507 for more information.

Informal Groups at Courtside

(M, T, W, Th, F) 8:00 am Contact Steve Robbins
venicewild@gmail.com phone: 941-416-5684

(M) 4:00 pm. Contact Kathryn Moen kpmoen@comcast.net

(M, T) 9:30 am 3.5 Women Contact Judy Edmunds
judied31@gmail.com or phone/text: 518-361-1453

(M, T, Th & F) 9:30 am 3.0-3.5 Men (November to May) Contact Joe Casale joecasale@att.net

(F) 9:30 am Men Contact Jim Clark
Clarkjm2521@gmail.com or text 224-656-3214

(T) Women 3.0 level Contact Liz Morris
maryelizabethmorris1@gmail.com

(Sun) Mixed doubles 8:00 am-social play. Contact: Frank Christman frank.christman@verizon.net 941-497-2904

(W) Mixed doubles 3.0 level and above, various times, all levels. Contact Steve Meyers Stevembakes@gmail.com

Happy First of the Month Friday!!

Dec. 1st -5:00 pm

“Happy Hour”

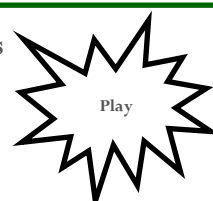
BYOB & an appetizer to share

We will be celebrating November Birthdays!

Dessert will be provided



Monday Mashups



Name of Group: Monday Mashups

Date: Mondays

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Meet: Courtside near court #1

Contact: Katy Moen, if you would like to participate.

Email: kpmoen@comcast.net

Phone: 360-931-1490

Want to learn the game of Mah Jongg?

Join Courtside for a fun-filled afternoon of Mah Jongg every Monday at 1:00 pm.

Willing to teach new people. Sign-up sheets are on the porch.



Think Christmas

“Our Fundraising Committee is working on a Courtside 2024 Calendar. The goal is to have it completed for sale by mid to late November. We are excited to offer this and will keep you posted”.

Thanks,

Sandy Murphy

