



Courtside Chatter

THE PLACE FOR TENNIS IN VENICE

512 N. Auburn Road, Venice, Florida 34292

Phone 941-485-2000

November 2022

Email: Courtsidetc@gmail.com

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

Pro's Points



Courtside Family Members,

Our winter season has started and we are busy, busy, busy! This past month alone we added about 21 new members, which includes returning seasonal members along with many brand-new members. Since hurricane Ian damaged so many of the other local clubs, we do expect to be getting even more new members.

We were very lucky to have come out of the hurricane with as little damage as we did, and we were also lucky that we had great member volunteers help us clean up and get back to normal operations so quickly. Thank you again to everyone who helped!

Please keep in mind that since we have seasonal members returning and new members joining, not everyone is going to know the rules of the club. Be understanding, polite and help people if they seem lost or have an odd question or two. Courtside has always been known for having nice members, so let us keep that tradition going even as we grow.

Additionally, Courtside is trying to help the community and local tennis players by letting non-Courtside tennis players use our courts temporarily until their facilities are up and running. The Board of Directors and I are conscious about this not negatively impacting our Courtside leagues or member's court availability.

One of the great things about Courtside is it has always had a relaxed, social, personal, atmosphere as opposed to feeling like a big, cold, uncaring corporation. Members can feel like Courtside is their home away from home, however, we are also a business, so we need to make sure that we can keep the doors open and pay the bills. It is a delicate balance at times, and something we all need to keep in mind.

Many things at Courtside have not changed much over the years, while others have, but we hope that the spirit, the feel, the overall experience is still the same, a relaxed home away from home, where you can make friends, be social, and play tennis on safe and well-maintained courts.

So, welcome back to our returning seasonal members, and welcome to our new family members. I hope you are as excited about this coming season as I am! Courtside will be fun, social and your home away from home because Courtside is The Place for Tennis in Venice.

Matt Liverman
Tennis Director/Head Tennis Professional

President's Corner

The "Spirit of Courtside Shows Itself Once Again"
from Jim Flynn

As we all know, a little over one month ago Southwest Florida was hit by Hurricane Ian and suffered severe damage in various locations. Courtside Tennis Club avoided much of the major damage, but was in need of a major cleanup effort.

Like many other seasonal residents, I could only visualize from afar the reality of the dire situation faced by those in Venice at the time. While being kept informed by Tom Lanigan the necessary clean up being undertaken, I was completely inspired by the number of volunteers from our club membership who stepped up of their own volition to help. To all those who did so, please accept my heartfelt gratitude. You are examples of why Courtside Tennis Club is such a special place with a living, loving spirit.

Courtside 45th Anniversary Celebration

Swinging to the Seventies

Round Robin & BBQ

Saturday, Nov. 5th



Courtside Board of Directors

Jim Flynn—President
Tom Lanigan—Vice President
Debbie Cavness-Secretary
Mitchell Betty-Treasurer

Sandy Allen-Director
Karen Scott-Director
Janet LeBlanc-Director

November Birthdays

JoAnn Donahue 3

Renee Walter 4

Bill Brenner 6

Bill Chapman 11

Michael Malott 12

Anne Rauthe 16

Karen Pasternak 22

Steve Meyers 23



On-Line Reservation

If you make a reservation and find that your party has a conflict and cannot attend, please be considerate and cancel that reservation so that perhaps someone else can reserve that court.

Also, check under **User Requests**. There may be times when a member is looking for a game or needs a sub.

Thank you,
Courtside Staff



Byron & Pam Aber

Gary Crecelius

Bunny Hartwick

George Hoffman

Charlotte Latta

Peter Lisowski

Jeff Ludwigson

Ken Lovell

Mark Macler & Son—Reid

Ray Rohe

David & Jennifer Siddons

Bruce Spottswood

Ray & Elinor Uhlhorn

Raynell Woods

New Members

“Quote of the Month”

I love the winning,
I can take the losing,
But most of all
I love to play.



Remember!

Tuesday—Ladies Clinic with Ula 10:00-11:00

Wednesday—Ladies 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 10:00-11:00

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!!

Nov. 5th

Courtside 45th Anniversary Round Robin & Party

Nov. 6th Daylight Saving Time ends

Nov. 9th Board Meeting @ 11:00

Nov. 11th Veterans Day

Nov. 24th Thanksgiving Day
(Office will be closed)



After School Junior Tennis Program

Begins Tuesday, August 16th

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

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!

Steve Meyers

What brought you to Courtside?

Being new to Florida in August of 2019, I didn't know anyone so I looked for an all tennis venue within a reasonable drive from the south part of Sarasota. After a 20 minute drive I was impressed with the modest clubhouse supporting nine clay courts that were busy with talented players. Clearly, it was all about the tennis at Courtside and I was excited at the prospect of being part of this group.

How long have you been playing tennis and why tennis?

I began playing tennis ten years ago. The racquetball courts seemed too physically crowded and not very safe. The tennis ball with its ability to accept spins coupled with the outside element aroused my curiosity. I never looked back.

Do you play other sports? Which ones?

Wiffleball was a sport I embraced as a kid and then fifty years later as an adult. When I retired in 2011 I decided to build a wiffle ball field in the vacant acre of land I owned behind our house. Previously a field that supported a variety of wild grasses I began defining the field dimensions using classic wiffle ball standards. With the help of a high school girl who lived on our road we began adding landscaping, a back stop, a wooden scoreboard that used hand posted numbers each half inning, infield art, and a flagpole. Over the course of the field's lifespan (6 years) we featured a variety of events including kids day with children as young as three while also embracing the older generation, many in their sixties. The remarkable quality of the field was that generational gaps seemed to dissolve once the players took the ball field.

Tell us about your family.

My grandmother was an influence on me growing up. She worked in the culinary department of the public school system and was a classic old school cook, everything from scratch. She knew how to bake, too. Not the fancy desserts we are used to seeing in today's modern cafes, more along the line of apple and cherry pies and, yes, cinnamon rolls.

Where have you travelled to and where would you recommend your fellow Courtside family travel to and why?

My wife, Susan and I have traveled to Martinique, a French island in the Caribbean, many times and always enjoyed the experience. The native population, coupled with a small transplant group of French citizens, is warm and welcoming to travelers. Snorkeling is wonderful, which is something my wife enjoys.

What did you do for a career?

I spent 25 years at the University of Michigan as their Executive Chef for Housing. It was a wonderful experience that stretched me in many ways.

What do you wish you knew more about?

I think the sea is a good answer to the question, "what do you wish you knew more about?", specifically aquatic behavior of the residents that we so seldom see.

What are some things people at Courtside do not know about you?

Some of my tennis friends are aware I'm writing a tennis novel about a young woman in her early twenties that is skyrocketing through the WTA ranks but gets an unexpected life change to deal with that has the potential to unravel her career goals.

I play the piano on a very intermediate level and take satisfaction in my baby steps progress.

What talent do you wish you had?

I wish I could speak fluent French. I love the culture and the sound of their language is simply music to my ears.

What makes you you? What is the best thing about you?

What makes me, me? I enjoy the challenge of allowing myself to evolve into the best person I can be.



Courtside Rules & Regulations

As a refresher for our new and older members of Courtside, there is a copy of the latest Courtside rules and regulations of the club on the bulletin board by the kitchen window.

Want to learn the game of Mah Jongg?

Join Courtside for a fun-filled afternoon of Mah Jongg every Monday at 1:30 pm.

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



PLEASE REMEMBER

When using the outdoor bathrooms, make sure the door is completely closed and locked when you exit.

Thank you,
Courtside Staff

