



# Courtside Chatter

THE PLACE FOR TENNIS IN VENICE

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## Pro's Points



Courtside Family Members,

Courtside went through a lot of positive changes this past year. We have added a new ball machine shed, many new members, a couple of new employees, and soon (March 04, 2023) we will have a new Board of Directors voted in.

With all the new changes, we have an opportunity to not only improve Courtside but to help the club grow. For improvements and growth to happen we all need to work together to help achieve the club goals. So, what are Courtside's goals?

I know what my goals for Courtside are. My main goal is for the club to be prosperous now and in the future, so Courtside, that was started 45 years ago, stays around for another 45 years. For us to achieve this goal I think Courtside needs to be financially responsible, set money aside to grow the club, and to give back to the sport of tennis and the Venice community. Courtside should be the leader, an example for how a tennis club should operate, and be the club that people want to be a part of.

Simply put, Courtside should continue to be The Place for Tennis in Venice.

Matt Liverman

Tennis Director/Head Tennis Professional

## Presidential Reflections

by Jim Flynn

Since this will be my final column as Courtside President, I would like to take the liberty of listing a number of two word descriptors that have genuinely enhanced my experience. In some cases the descriptors are listed as peoples' names.

Here we go:

Fiscal Responsibility  
Work Days  
Mo & Sue  
Matt & Ula  
Dempsey & Dove  
Board Colleagues  
Membership Growth  
Round Robins  
Cook Outs  
Holiday Parties  
Member Generosity  
Men's Leagues  
Women's Leagues  
League Captains  
Charitable Works  
League Championships  
Pros' Exhibitions

It's been a wonderful ride for me. At this point, although my ride will slow down a bit, I'm still planning to take part in it, just at a slower speed. Thanks for the memories thus far at "The Place for Tennis in Venice".

## 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

## March Birthdays

Pam Aber 6

Karen Scott 10

Monica Walker 12

Dan Minior 19

Sandy Allen 21

Bob Mumper 24

Jack Colvin 25

Norman Anderson 26

Chuck Beall 28

Amy Chausse 30



**Miami Open**

**March 27th—28th 2023**

Don't miss the chance to see the greatest tennis players in the world at the **New Hardrock Stadium** in Miami.

Day Trip—3/27

Overnight Trip 3/27 to 3/28

Call Brenda (941) 412-0781 to put your name on the list, 1st come, 1st serve.

**THE ANNUAL MEETING**

**OF**

**COURTSIDE TENNIS CLUB**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 4th**

**Beginning at 12:00 Noon**

**Catering by "Gold Rush"**

**ALL MEMBERS WELCOME!**



## "Quote of the Month"

### TEAMWORK

Coming together is the beginning.

Keeping together is progress.

Working together is success.

Henry Ford



# 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

Wednesday—Cardio Tennis with Ula 11:00-12:00

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!!

**March 4th—Courtside’s Annual Meeting @ 12:00 Noon**

**March 12th—Daylight Saving Time begins**

**March 17th—St. Patrick’s Day**

**March 24th-Draw/Kick Off Party**

**March 25th-Charity Team Tennis Tournament**



## After School Junior Tennis Program

**Tuesday & Thursday  
4:00 pm—5:30 pm**

**Ages: 8 & up**

**\$15.00 per session per child**

**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!

John & Chris Wilson

## What brought you to Courtside?

It's not what brought us to Courtside but who and that who would be Grace Mahoney. After playing with Grace for many years at Shamrock park, she finally convinced us that our aging bodies would last much longer if we played on clay courts. Joining Courtside was one of the best decisions we've made (thank you Grace) since we feel like we now have a whole new extended family.

## How long have you been playing tennis and why tennis?

We picked up our first tennis racket about 13 years ago as a way to enhance our newly retired lifestyle while getting some fun exercise at the same time. We enrolled through Sarasota Parks and Recreation to begin taking lessons in Nokomis and our instructor turned out to be none other than our own wonderful Ula Cierniak.

## Do you play other sports? Which ones?

Over our many years together, we have enjoyed several sports including hockey, baseball, both snow and water skiing, volleyball, rollerblading, biking, swimming, kayaking and probably our most beloved sport-boating! We boated on the Great Lakes for over 30 years and still enjoy boating to this day!

## Tell us about your family.

We have two children with families of their own so we've been blessed with 4 wonderful grandchildren. Our son, daughter-in-law and adult grandson live in Grand Rapids, Michigan while our daughter, son-in-law and three boys (1-14 yr. old and 2-17 yr. olds) live in Toronto. As you can imagine, the 3 Canadian boys are very engaged in hockey but also love to take Grandma and Grandpa on for a game of tennis...which they're very good at!

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

We've had the pleasure of travelling quite a bit for both business and leisure. We've been through virtually every US State (twice) but our favorite destinations are in Europe where we are actually planning a more extensive trip this fall.

## What did you do for a career?

The next time you take your seat in the Venice Theatre, Venice Performing Art Center or even the Van Wezel, your backside will have the pleasure of enjoying our handy work as we spent over 30 years manufacturing and/or renovating chairs for Performing Arts, Movie Theatre, Stadiums and many of the most recognizable venues in North America and beyond.

## What do you wish you knew more about?

John: Every decision I have made poorly in the past.

Chris: Languages. During all our travels I've realized what an asset knowing several languages would be.

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

We've been married almost 52 years (although John would say

With the wind chill it feels like 60). We are both born and bred Canadians who transferred to the US for business after the age of 50. We love both Countries and after years living as "Alien" residents, we've decided to take the next step and obtain our dual citizenship.

## What talent do you wish you had?

John: I wish I had the talent to play a musical instrument or even be able to hold a tune in the shower.

Chris: Singing, dancing and theatre. Instead of pursuing a business career, I wish I had pursued a career in the Arts.

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

John: I am reluctant to say this out loud (there will be consequences) but Chris is often the best thing about me.

Chris: How can I follow that remark??



## YOGA

Yoga this Thursday March 2<sup>nd</sup> and continuing every Thursday at 2 PM. All that is required is a yoga mat, small wet towel since the weather is on the warm side these days and a water bottle. We will stretch muscles to increase flexibility, incorporate balance poses, continue to work on core muscles, add to our ongoing program by starting to introduce the sun salutation and at end of class a meditation practice to ease the mind of the tensions we encounter daily.

A number of tennis members have indicated because of knee, back, shoulder and arm injuries past or present,, they are reluctant to come to the class.. Rest assured there will be modifications to all the poses. One of the goals of the class would include the ability to provide muscle flexibility allowing you to return to the tennis court with a healthier physical and mental approach to your overall game. The class will incorporate beginner to advanced poses.

Some additional benefits will include improved respiration, circulatory health and vitality. At the end of class, as previously mentioned, we will incorporate quiet time and feeling your body as it moves through space and time moment to moment which will assist you to create peace and calm.



**Jim Clark**

**Martha Forward**

**Dallas Robinson**

**Vicki Ryan**

**Nancy Smith**

**Lucy Troutman**

**New Members**

**REMINDER**

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



We still have available the Venice High School community discount cards that are valid until May 2023.

The businesses range from all kinds of restaurants, oil changes, nurseries, car washes etc.

It's only \$20.00 and most importantly it helps the Venice High School tennis team.

**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.

**Reminder**

**All full-time members can pay their monthly membership dues through their bank's Bill Pay Option. Once you set that up with your bank, the bank will send a check directly to Courtside each month on the date you specify.**

**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.**



**2 o'clock Tuesdays**

**Pick-up tennis**

**No need to sign up**

**Just show up ready to play**

**Meet at Court #7 grandstands**

