



# Courtside Chatter

THE PLACE FOR TENNIS IN VENICE

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Phone 941-485-2000

January 2022

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## Pro's Points



Courtside family members,

Can you believe another year has gone by? Can you believe that it is already 2022? With each new year, we have a chance to reset and begin again, to make changes, or improvements. I am inspired to make changes/improvements in 2022 both personally and professionally.

My inspiration comes from the Scandinavian/Swedish word "lagom" (pronounced laaaw-gum with a soft emphasis on the "w"). There isn't a direct translation for the word into English, but basically "lagom" means: not too little, not too much, just right. It's not the same as the word "perfection" because being perfect is unattainable. Being "balanced" or "harmonious" or striving for the ultimate balance in life is attainable and that is what my goal is for 2022.

Lagom is not the same for each person, but each person can strive to achieve what they feel is lagom. The example that I heard is if two people eat the same meal, one might think that it was salted "lagom", while another might feel it was too salty, neither one is necessarily right and the other isn't necessarily wrong and one person can't convince the other that they are either right or wrong.

2022 means that I am striving to find lagom in my personal and in my professional life. Just the right amount of work and the right amount of down time, just the right amount of tennis and the right amount of sleep, just the right amount of socializing, eating, exercise, fun, sun, and family time. Not too little and not too much.

Considering how divided our world and country have become, and how there seems to be less and less middle ground, I think trying to find "lagom" in life is a good, positive thing and might help bring people together.

We will continue to make changes and improvements at Courtside in 2022. We will continue to move forward, to be positive, and to enjoy what we are lucky to have. We will continue to try and be the place for tennis in Venice.

Matt Liverman

Tennis Director/Head Professional

## President's Corner

Board of Directors Position

Dear Full-Time Members of Courtside Tennis Club:

The Courtside Board of Directors will have 1 vacant seat to be filled at the Annual Meeting on March 5, 2022. The Board is comprised of 7 members each of whom serves for a term of 3 years. Election ballots will be sent to all Full-Time Members with the results to be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Any Full-Time Members interested in running for the seat on the Board must submit his/her intention to do so along with a brief synopsis of their background and qualifications to either Sue or Mo no later than January 21, 2022. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve the club and its members in a meaningful way.

Returning Board Members are: Sandy Allen, Mitchell Betty, Jim Flynn, Tom Lanigan, Janet LeBlanc, and Karen Scott.

Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Jim Flynn  
President

**Courtside  
Board of Directors**

Jim Flynn—President  
Sam Vendemia—Vice President  
Tom Lanigan—Secretary  
Mitchell Betty—Treasurer

Sandy Allen—Director  
Karen Scott—Director  
Janet LeBlanc—Director

## January Birthdays

Sally Pym 8

Joe Casale 10

MO 22

Judy Edmunds 31

*Thank You!*

The Courtside staff would like to thank all of our members who contributed to the Employee Christmas Fund. Your generosity is beyond words. Again, thank you for this incredible gift!



**welcome**

**Aaron Binstock**

**Laura Carey**

**Karen Kennedy**

**Karen Mazzola**

**Kim Reddington**

# **New Members**

## **“Quote of the Month”**

**I have found that if you love life, life will love you back.**

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897 East Venice Ave, Venice 34285

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# Remember!

Tuesday—Ladies Clinic with Ula 11:00-12:00

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 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!!

New Year's Day - January 1st  
(Office is Closed)

Sat. January 8th—Courtside Snowball Round  
Robin & Cookout

January 12th—Board Meeting @ 11:30



## After School Jr. 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.

Winter School Break  
Dec. 23rd to Jan. 11th  
No Junior Tennis

### On-Line Reservation

(for courts 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, & 9 at either 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

Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day, the office & on-line reservation system is closed.

Sunday (Office is Closed)

\*Court 4 is reserved for lessons.

\*During League Play ladies and men will use designated courts as assigned by the Director of Tennis.

# Meet Your Courtside Family!

## Debbie Cavness

Welcome to a new section of the Courtside Newsletter. Each month, a name will be drawn and you will receive an email from me, Debbie Cavness, asking you to complete some questions. You are welcome to answer all questions or whatever you would like. We ask that you respond by the 20th of the month. There are so many people at this wonderful club that have fascinating backgrounds and talents and skills other than tennis. Let's find out who they are and what those other talents and backgrounds are all about.

What brought you to Courtside?

Just moving here from Colorado about 6 years ago, I was looking to play more tennis in Venice. A friend suggested I try out Courtside and was that ever the right decision! The people here are friendly and good tennis players!

How long have you been playing tennis and why tennis?

My passion is tennis. Have played tennis since I was a little girl. My dad played while I was growing up and all the kids would go down to the clay courts in town to play along the river while our parents played or watched the tennis matches. I think it is in my blood!

Do you play other sports? Which ones?

My husband's passion is golf so I will play golf every now and then. I also like to bike ride. When I retire and that day is coming soon, I hope to have more time for kayaking too.

Tell us about your family.

I grew up in New Jersey and moved around some after college. Lived in the CA Bay area and then moved to Boulder, CO where I met my husband Jack at a small startup biotech company. We have been married for 21 years. I have 2 sisters in CO and VA. My parents are snowbirds, FL and VA.

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

Jack and I have taken many bike trips to Europe (Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden). The best trip was our first one to Prague. The city is so old and there is so much history. We loved the neighboring village of Cesky Krumlov. We also loved biking in Germany along the Moselle. The countryside is beautiful and they make great wines of which we sampled many along the way. Saw bells (the size of church bells) being made by an old German family. We biked in Puglia, the boot heel of Italy along the olive trees and stayed in the ancient city of Matera in stylish cave hotels.

What did you do for a career?

I answered a blind ad in the NY Times for Biology majors and that was the start of my career in the pharmaceutical industry. I was a Clinical Data Analyst working my way up to Associate Director. We took patient's data for a clinical trial and cleaned it so the statisticians could prepare it for review and hopefully approval by the FDA. I worked for many of the large pharma companies but most enjoyed working for a small biotech company in Boulder CO, OSI Pharmaceuticals. I was involved in trials for Kaposi's Sarcoma for Aids patient's, NSCLC and pancreatic cancer. A very rewarding career to see a drug go to market knowing you helped people with a disease.

What do you wish you knew more about?

I love learning about the history of the area we live in. Sarasota County has so much to offer!

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

I marched in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade as a Pilgrim for the turkey float.

We had a bear break into our home while living in the mountains of CO. It is true what they say about bears too, a bear does \*\*\*\* in the woods!

What talent do you wish you had?

I wish I could be a better gardener. My grandfather was a horticulturalist and took care of the grounds on an estate in NY. I wish he were around today to help me. I tried to grow an avocado, banana and grapefruit tree. All died. So sad...But I will try again.

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

I am a kind person and always look at the glass half full! I take after my mother who is the kindest person I know!