



Courtside Chatter

THE PLACE FOR TENNIS IN VENICE

512 N. Auburn Road, Venice, Florida 34292

Phone 941-485-2000

March 2024

Email: Courtsidetc@gmail.com

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

Pro's Points



South Sarasota County



2nd ANNUAL

CHARITY TEAM TENNIS TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY
MARCH 22

DRAW PARTY
3-5 PM

Pro exhibition matches, corn hole, and refreshments.

SATURDAY
MARCH 23

TOURNAMENT
PLAY 10AM-3PM

Round Robin format with 4 guaranteed doubles rounds, goodie bag and prizes to the winners. Food and beverages provided throughout the day.

\$50 REGISTRATION FEE

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
South Sarasota County

Sign-up Deadline: Saturday, March 16th

Only 15 spots left!!

Everyone is welcome to come even if you don't play.

News from the Board

In last month's newsletter, I shared with you about the maintenance work on our 45-year old cast-iron pipes. After jetting and camera inspections, we discovered some minor cracks on the topside of the pipes. We were able to address this issue at a fraction of the cost of re-piping the entire building. The total cost for jetting, camera examination, and the installation of a clean out was \$2,900, saving us from a potential \$40,000 expense.

Moving on to our courts, we have been actively monitoring the need for additional top dressing on all the courts. Because of some challenges such as a wet and rainy early February, along with a delay in material delivery, we were not able to complete this when we wanted. The new HarTru must be applied on dry courts, or the material will clump up making for an uneven playing surface. By the time you are reading this newsletter, we hope to have sufficient new top dressing applied to all our courts, ensuring a better playing surface for everyone.

A big shoutout to the over 60 volunteers who dedicated their time and effort on our recent workday. Thanks to their hard work, Courtside is looking fantastic inside and out!

We look forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 9th.

Keep enjoying the game we all love!

Tom Lanigan
President

Courtside Board of Directors

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

Jim Flynn
Sandy Murphy
Sally Pym



Traci Holmes

Monica Pedraja

March Birthdays

David Greenfield 4

Pam Aber 6

Karen Scott 10

Monica Walker 12

Dan Minior 19

Sandy Allen 21

Bob Mumper 24

Jack Colvin 25

Chuck Beall 28

Amy Chausse 30

Chris Thomassen 31



New Members

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”

**“The question isn’t who is going to let me;
it’s who is going to stop me.”**



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!!

March 9th-Annual Meeting & Lunch

March 17th-Saint Patrick’s Day
(wear green day)

March 22nd-Draw Party

March 23rd-Charity Event
(Habitat for Humanity)



After School Junior Tennis Program will resume Tuesday, January 9th

Tuesday & Thursday
4:00-5:30

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!

Stan Forwand

What brought you to Courtside?

I came to Courtside shortly after I moved to Nokomis from Sarasota. For a while, I stayed with Serendipity because of my teams and friends but after an ownership change many people left. I decided to look at nearby Courtside and was immediately attracted by the low key and friendly members (although I was startled when, in the first change of sides in my first doubles set as a member, my partner said one of our opponents, "Did they lock her up yet?") I was particularly drawn to the scheduling scheme by which one need only show up and be guaranteed playing time. While that particular plan is no longer in effect, the growth of large groups on specific mornings has replaced it and accomplishes the same mixing that makes Courtside, in my view, unique.

How long have you been playing tennis and why tennis?

First the why-being a city boy my first love was basketball but around age thirteen I stopped growing and eventually got tired of having my head pounded by elbows. I was (and still am) very competitive but found having a net between me and my opponents was more suitable for me. I first picked up a tennis racquet in summer camp when I was twelve. A counsellor asked me if I knew how to play and I said "no." He asked, "Can you swing a baseball bat?" "Yes," I said. "Well, it's just like that." (It isn't!) I played handball for my high school but in the summer between high school and college a buddy and I ran a small food concession at a little tennis club behind the Bronx County Courthouse. I was spellbound when a tall young lady came in with the owner and played tennis like I'd never seen before. She was the most graceful athlete I'd ever seen too, gliding around the court like a deer. At the time, I didn't know who Althea Gibson was!

Do you play other sports? Which ones?

You'd never think so by looking at what's left of me now, but I was a good athlete when I was young. I played tennis for Union College and also played basketball in a Schenectady City League while there. I played baseball in summer camps as a camper and as a counsellor in intercamp leagues. I skied until back surgery stopped me in my seventies. My best sport is ping pong.

Tell us about your family.

My maternal grandmother's family were chicken farmers outside of Minsk. My grandfather was a butcher there. They had nine children and relocated to London because he lost his money on the horses and had to start over. On arrival, the immigration officer couldn't spell his name (it was Dvorak) and asked him, "What tribe are you from?" He answered, "Levi," I am Stanley because he was Samuel. My father was one of five children. He was born in Germany in 1907. His family was also from Eastern Europe but one sister had a congenital hip problem and the family moved to Leipzig, renowned for its medicine at the time. I was an only child in a Jewish family in da Bronx. My father made artificial flowers for ladies hats. I was the first in both families to go to college. My current family is a blessing. It includes my wonderful wife who, aside from having a black belt in gardening, is able to climb a ladder without falling off and, most importantly, has the patience to put up with me. I have a son and a daughter-two wonderful but completely different people. Unfortunately (for me) they both live in Oakland, CA. My daughter works for Apple and my son is an apprentice with a national Elevator service Union.

What did you do for a career?

I got out of the Army just as U.S. hospitals were starting to hire specialists for full time in-hospital work. I was hired by one of Harvard's two hospitals in Cambridge to design a Coronary Care Unit, staff it and run it. (This was one of the many things in my life that I look back on and can't believe I had the energy and smarts to do.) I was Chief of Cardiology there for twenty-eight years.

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

I had a wanderlust early. After my first year in medical school, I led a group of college kids on a trip through England, Scotland, France and Italy. With a few free days at the end of the trip I met my cousin Maurice, a member of my father's family who ran a barber shop on the East Bank in Paris. After a number of disparaging remarks about my awful American suit, he took me to a resort in Geneva along with his Algerian friend, with whom I debated politics in French! In my senior year in medical school I jumped at the opportunity to go to Dutch Guiana (now Surinam), work for two months in a jungle hospital and do some research that necessitated going up river into the jungle and obtaining blood samples from some native tribes. That world is gone now. (Little did I know then that that would be the most exciting thing I'd do in my lifetime.) For retirement trips I think Costa Rica is easy, safe and beautiful. Egypt is a little scary but unique. Australia is exhausting to reach but wonderful in its variety (plus potable water and indoor toilets). Our most recent trip was to Croatia, a country at "the crossroads"-invaded innumerable times and always choosing the wrong side in wars.

What do you wish you knew more about?

I wish I read more. I think there's a little of ADHD in me and I was never one for sitting around with a good book. I'm also a little envious of the people I meet who's jobs have taken them all over the globe.

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

I'm a bonafide, card carrying nerd. When my daughter was twelve, for my birthday she gave me a white, plastic pen holder for my white coat pocket. She had stenciled "Nerd Power" on it. I'm a classical music buff including opera and also love the theatre.

What talent do you wish you had?

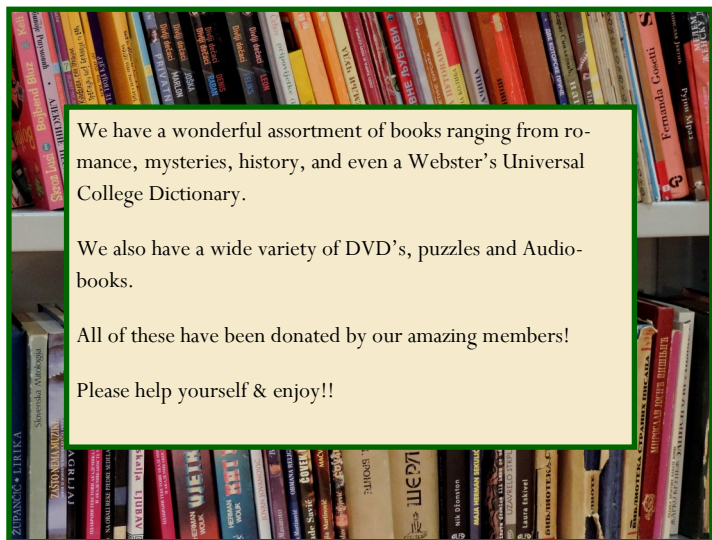
I wish I could carry a tune and play the piano. A few years ago, I read an article that said if one wants to live a long life, one should take up a hobby involving something that is hard to learn and stick to it. I bought an electric keyboard that looked like a piano and a book of "Piano lessons for the adult beginner." I put the book on the piano, sat down with it once and never touched it again. After three years I was surprised that I still couldn't play, I sold it. That article ended with the author suggesting that tennis was a good example of the kind of hobby he'd written about.

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

What makes me, me is sense of humor and strong feelings, both of which can get me in trouble. I once was told that my motto should be "often wrong but never in doubt." I'd like to have a gentler motto.



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 Audio-books.

All of these have been donated by our amazing members!

Please help yourself & enjoy!!

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!!

March 1st-5:00 p.m.

“Happy Hour”

BYOB & an appetizer to share

We will be celebrating March 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.



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

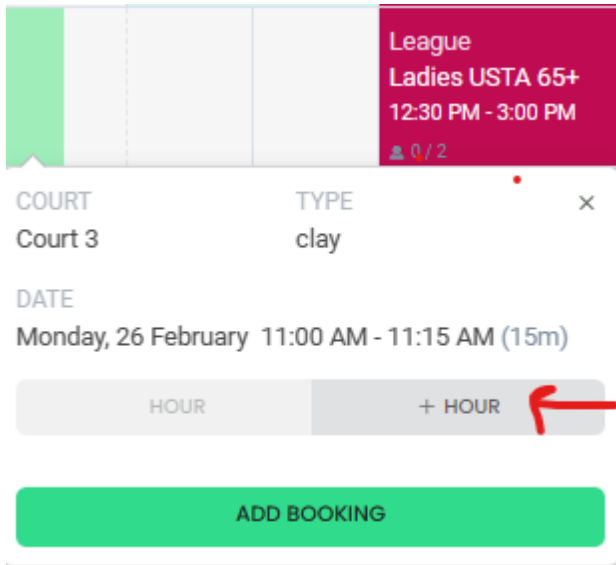
PlayByPoint (PBP) Tips

How to reserve a court in 15 minute/half hour increments for courts reserved at 11am:

Via PBP cell phone app-If you want to reserve a court from 11am-12:30pm, select each half hour increment (11-11:30am, 11:30am-12pm, 12-12:30pm), then select the Court #, Next, add players names, Next, Book.

Or once you have selected 11:00am-11:15am, left click on the reservation, hold the clicker down and drag the reservation to where you want the reservation to end. Release the clicker.

Via PBP website-select the time you would like to start (11am in the example below), then select "+ Hour" for each additional 15 minutes. Select "Add Booking", Enter player names, Select "Book".



The screenshot shows a mobile app interface for booking a court. At the top, there is a header for a league: "League Ladies USTA 65+ 12:30 PM - 3:00 PM" with a player count of "0 / 2". Below this is a form with the following fields:

| COURT | TYPE |
|---------|------|
| Court 3 | clay |

Below the table is a "DATE" field showing "Monday, 26 February 11:00 AM - 11:15 AM (15m)". At the bottom of the form are two buttons: "HOUR" and "+ HOUR". A red arrow points to the "+ HOUR" button. At the very bottom is a large green button labeled "ADD BOOKING".