

# USPTA

March 2007

*NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DIVISION*

Volume 18, Number 1

## 2007 Division Conference at Stanford



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# President's Message

by Paul Garron

Many of you came up to me and to your board of directors or e-mailed your comments: "Wow, what a great division convention!" "I appreciate all the work that you put into our Division Convention." and "I really enjoyed the speakers. Thank you board." This convention was truly amazing and I want to acknowledge the following people: Trade Show Chair, **John Ebie**, assistant **Mike Galli**, Living Legends Chair, **Rosie Bareis**, assistants **Weston Reese** and **Scott Borowiak**, Purchasing Chair and Keynote Speaker contact, **Neil Archer**, co-chairs of Photography and Video Taping; **Ron Lowe** and **Mike Galli**, assistant **Alvin Hom**, Chair of providing students for seminars, **Gary Wong**. Special thanks to sponsor of Living Legends Night – Sacramento Capitals' Lonnie Neilson and sponsor of the Award Reception and Cocktails – Tennisplayer.net's **John Yandell**. Many thanks also go to the following NorCal speakers: **Mike Bauer**, **Scott Borowiak**, **Frank Brennan**, **Ken DeHart**, **Tom Edlefsen**, **Jeff Greenwald** and **Barry MacKay**. Thanks also to co-chairman of the Louis Cayer Clinics: **Larry Parker** and **Weston Reese** with **Dale Miller** and **Gary Wong** and the rest of the board members and regional directors that helped in many areas: **Marc Moran**, **John Sharpe**, **Steve Leube** (past board member), **Jason Blum**, **Jack Bracken**, **Todd Dissly**, **Gay Finch**, **Sandy Gostanian**, **Jay Potter**, **Christy Funk** and **Nigel Pugh**.

Congratulations to all the award winners. Our head tester, **Sid Newcomb**, did a great job with the testing. A huge mahalo to our Executive Director, **Margie Peterman** for putting in so many hours to make this division convention so successful and keep us on the right path.

My Dad used to say, "You are only as good as the company you associate with!" with that in mind, Dick Gould and myself agreed to host our division convention at Stanford University for the next four years. Mark down on your calendar our **2008 USPTA NorCal Division Convention** will be on February 9 – 11 (Saturday – Monday).

USPTA NorCal pros **Page Bartelt**, **Tracy Houk** and **John Sharpe** were honored as 2006 USPTA International Championships Winners at the SAP opening night and were presented awards by yours truly. I also got to do the coin toss for the second match. Thank you **Bill Rapp** for promoting USPTA NorCal.

Our Chairperson of Education/Workshops **Rosie Bareis** will be announcing the dates for five specialty courses during the year through USPTA e-mail blasts. The speakers will be: **Rosie Bareis**, **Ken DeHart**, **Mark Fairchilds**, **Michael Jessup** and **John Yandell**.

May is **Tennis Across America™** month. This is a great opportunity for us to promote tennis. The program is geared to attract *new, current* and *former players* by offering free clinics. Please contact **Todd Dissly**, division liaison, at (408) 746-3685 or e-mail him at [tdizz@lgt.net](mailto:tdizz@lgt.net) to register your event.

The Women's Retreat held at Claremont Resort on February 25 was a success and the women are looking forward to holding another one in October (see **Gay Finch's** article).

The next USPTA testing will be **April 24** at **San Francisco Tennis Club** for any Developmental Coaches and USPTA Pros that wanting to get certified or upgraded.

The first **Junior Cup Tournament** will be held on **April 21 – 22** at **Millennium Sports Club Rancho Solano**. You have the opportunity to coach your students between changeovers. Contact **Michael Friedman** at (707) 365-7901 or e-mail him at [talking10s@aol.com](mailto:talking10s@aol.com).

Thank you for supporting **USPTA Northern California** and participating in many of the activities in the upcoming months. I am proud to be a part of this board and look forward to serving as president.

Paul Garron



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## Louis Cayer Clinic

The USPTA NorCal Division presented Louis Cayer Clinics for members of USPTA Pros. It gave the USPTA NorCal an opportunity to promote an international speaker and also gave exposure to USPTA. The Louis Cayer clinics were offered to over 125 students and included *Doubles tactics and strategy* and *Junior training*. The host sites were San Francisco Tennis Club, Club Sport Valley Vista and Club Sport Fremont. All the tennis directors – Weston Reese, Larry Parker and Dale Miller did a great job with putting the groups together. Special thanks to the following USPTA Pros with assisting in the clinics: Dan Leon, Rich Sotelo, Chris Magyary, Thomas Brinkhoff, Anthony Dicosola, John Sharpe and Lou Maunupau.



## Division Conference



## 2007 NorCal USPTA Board of Directors

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## 2006 USPTA Award Winners



**Pro of the Year  
Todd Dissly**



**Rookie Pro  
of the Year  
Bill Weber**



**Men's Open Player  
of the Year  
Hunter Gallaway**



**Women's Open  
Player of the Year  
Tracy Houk**



**High School Coach  
of the Year  
John Ebie**



**Eldon Rowe Senior  
Men's Open Player  
of the Year  
Thomas Brinkhoff**



**Regional Director  
of the Year  
Jack Bracken**



**Service to Tennis  
Dick Gould**



**President's Award  
Neil Archer**



**Facility of the Year  
Modesto Fitness  
and Racquet Club**

### Congratulations

Rick Kepler has been selected to represent the USA in the Tony Trabert Cup for men 40 and over. (He will replace George Zink, who suffered a wrist injury). Rick is ranked No. 1 in 35 doubles (with NorCal's Brian Cory) and is ranked in the top 20 nationally in men's 35 singles. He won the 35 grass court doubles and the Marin Category II national doubles in 2006. This is his first appearance on a senior international team. Rick chaired the USTA NorCal Adult Tournament Committee for several years and is a member of the NorCal Board of Directors.

## Regional News

### East Bay

*Nigel Pugh*  
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First let me introduce myself, my name is Nigel Pugh and I am the tennis director of Diablo Country Club. Having grown up playing national junior tennis in Australia, injury cheated me out of a playing career and reluctantly I played my way through college teaching tennis, as many of us do. After my injury I never considered teaching tennis as a profession so I entered the corporate world. During this time I still stayed in touch with the sport by being involved with tennis in New South Wales in two capacities, one growing the junior participation and the other was instructor examinations. So what does all of that mean? Nothing really. I'm not suggesting I know more than any of you, but I do know how important USPTA is to me. Even 10 years ago I realized just how important it was to belong to an organization that continues to educate support and guide its members during their career development. We have the USPTA and to not get involved would be cheating you out of essential development and networking opportunities.

February 2 - 4 saw the annual USPTA conference at Stanford. The highlight for me was the Scott Ford seminar on *Linear and non-linear teaching*. These days it seems that most of the information that is passed along is in reference to the higher level of play or the modern game. This concept of linear teaching I have used with beginners to advanced players in both junior and adults. It truly was a seminar for all levels of players and for all level of coaches. If you get the opportunity to see this seminar do yourself a favor and check it out. Networking again is such an important part of any conference.

Rancho is full steam ahead with seven USTA adult teams with John Sharpe hoping to advance more teams to the sectionals. John has fully got onboard

with the TOPDOG club managing system for in-house leagues, events, find-a-player, among other things like court calendars. Most of us should be familiar with this program as BALL ladies tennis and fall and spring leagues are now online with TOPDOG. Let us know how it goes John. Contra Costa Tournaments are getting back on track, March 16-18 Crow Canyon; April 20-22 Lafayette Tennis Centre; in May Blackhawk and the Tourament of Champions will be held at Diablo Country Club June 1-3.

Contra Costa Junior team league and USTA Junior team league sign-ups are coming up.

Andrew Fearnside is full steam ahead at Livermore Valley Tennis Club. Andrew started in December 2006 and has picked up the program running with a solid base of juniors. It's great to see tennis is back at Livermore Valley Tennis Club.

USPTA Pros Dale Miller and Chris Magyary from ClubSport Valley Vista are in their second season of running the Junior 6 - Tennis League for the Diablo North section. Under the guidance of both Dale and Chris, this program has had outstanding growth from 148 to now 282 players. There are 34 teams captained by parent volunteers playing in three divisions with kids' ages from 7 - 16. Dale says it's amazing to watch all these beginning and novice players be able to play as a team using creative formats and level specific balls that allow for long exciting points. They are now getting families coming from Bay Point to San Ramon.

Blackhawk Country Club Director of Tennis Brian Berry was elected to the Norcal USTA Board of Directors; his two-year term began in January. Being a USPTA

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# Women's News



## Women's Retreat

by Rosie Bareis

On February 25, the USPTA NorCal held the women's retreat at the Claremont Resort and Spa. The host pro, Rosie Bareis, and Women's liaison, Gay Finch, had a fun filled, very educational day for all of the women.

Attendees included Heather Anderson, Tracie Currie, Pauline Hanson, Shannon Randolph, Sue Beaumonte, Denise Stave, Judy Newman, Linda Paulding, Gay Finch, Rosie Bareis, Elizabeth Canepa, Wendy Grover, Rachel Blum, Maria Wacker, Lynn Rolley and Barbara Lewis.

The morning kicked off with Rachel Blum, a developmental coach who loves working with the after-school program. Her area of expertise is the start up of players. She goes to schools throughout the USTA nonprofit status and introduces beginning juniors to the game of tennis. You can see Rachel flourishes in this area. Her attention to detail is impeccable. She trains all the "soccer moms" and high school players on how to get their beginners excited to play tennis.

The two games she taught, Chopstick vs. Lay the Egg and Arcade, were new to most of the attendees. Rachel had so many games she wanted to share she got all the women involved in game sharing. Rosie and Gay decided at the next retreat to have a portion designated to "games galore." Rachel has started her own business bringing tennis to more than 3,200 juniors in the San Francisco area. She is also expanding by helping people who would like to do the same in their area. Hopefully Rachel will speak at an upcoming conference. Rachel was previously a Physical Education teacher and has five children of her own. Her high school senior is looking to play college tennis this coming year!

Next came Gay Finch, who specializes in Cardio Tennis. Gay got the women moving with warm-up drills such as circle medicine ball tosses, ladders, jump rope, kariokas, scoops, and shuffles. You could see those organizational skills come out in her presentation. From the beginning, the women were laughing and having a great time.

Gay then took us through a series of hitting skills with the foam ball and transitional star balls. She paused every 10-15 minutes so we could take our heart rate. Gay definitely had us moving. More drills and footwork skill, some dancing to the music and loads of fun followed. After 35 minutes of cardio, Gay started the games section of Cardio Tennis with games such as triples, attacker-defender, mini-tennis, etc. You could see Gay's passion and love for her players show through. After decades of coaching girls in high school, Gay retired this past year. Of course we all remember the girls' high school teams Gay coached. Lucky for the USPTA NorCal (and Gay's husband Bill) we get Gay's expertise and love of coaching!

Rosie Bareis, who has won 10 gold balls in doubles, gave her high ball/low ball presentation. She taught the women a system that works for every level of player from 2.5 to the professional level. The presentation highlighted that an individual's ability to track the height of the ball dictates what shot to hit and when. As lunch was served, Rosie continued her talk on outside vs. inside balls, offense, neutral and defensive balls, attack, transition, offensive and defensive court positioning. Everyone was reminded about "fronthead."

Following lunch, Lynne Rolley and her trusty assistant, Kim Lackey, treated the women to tips for playing better singles. Lynne spoke about the Lindsay Davenport, Chanda Rubin, and Jennifer Capriati era, which was special for her because she traveled all over the world with "the girls." She explained how important it is to know players' personalities, parents, background and genetics so you can help them with developing their own style of play in order to help them become a champion. Lynne also discussed that there are only four or five patterns for each style that kids should practice, depending on their game style. Of course players may have primary and secondary game styles, which give them more options for winning. The key is to find which style is primary, secondary, etc. Lynne expanded on other topics like dead ball vs. live ball drilling,

power vs. placement and practice for competition.

The day ended with Judy Newman-Rakela discussing mental toughness. How do you deal with someone who is giving bad line calls, being obnoxious or your partner falling apart? She also went over how to deal with the wind and playing when you are sick or injured. Judy to the rescue... She got us prepared, centered, released-relaxed-rescripted-reenergized.

We learned about being prepared, including packing your bag (I love *Player Bag Check* on the tennis channel), warming up in advance and leaving all expectations at the door. We also learned about using disturbances, such as the cue, to concentrate. Judy told us about her experience in Italy and playing in front of a hostile crowd. Italians were going crazy for the hometown girl and Judy had to figure out how to tune out her audience and tune in to winning her match.

Thank you to all who came and participated. The next retreat is looking like early October.

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## Maria Wacker

Maria Wacker coaches the St. Vincent High School tennis team in Petaluma. She started four years ago when her two older kids were on the team. Now they're in college but she's still coaching the team. This year her youngest son, Christopher is a freshman on the team. Spring is a busy time for her.

She also helps captain and plays on two USTA women's teams.

Maria would like to share a tip she learned at this year's USPTA Conference at Stanford. Scott Ford talked about playing in the "zone". To do this you must concentrate on the contact of the ball with the racquet. Pretend there is a window at arms-length in front of you. Hit the ball before it goes through the window. Focus on that window as you hit the ball. This eliminates distractions and puts you in the "zone." Playing in the "zone" puts you in control. By being in control you become a better player.

# ❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



## Sacramento

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Congratulations to all the pros who won awards for 2006. Your hard work and continuing dedication truly helps in growing the game.

I missed the seminars in Stanford in February due to a family obligation but heard nothing but great things about it. Thanks to all the leaders of the USPTA NorCal board that help put it all together.

### News from Marty Rothfels from Gold River Racquet Club:

Gold River will be hosting the NCAA Big Sky Conference event for the women and the men April 27-29. The public is welcome to come and watch the team competition and this will be a very exciting event for Sacramento tennis. Call Gold River at (916) 638-7001 to find out the match times as the event approaches.

Gold River won three USTA Adult league Sectional titles in 2006 and this year the

number of teams will exceed 40 squads for the calendar year. Gold River has for many years been the most active USTA Adult League program in the Sacramento region with 44 teams competing last year in Adult, Combo, Mixed, Fifty Mixed, Senior and Super Senior divisions. David Meegan from Gold River was selected as one of the Northern California Captains of the Year. His teams won two Sectional Championships, and three others in our Section.

### News from Glenn Davis and Scott Potthast from Notomas Racquet Club:

Natomas Racquet Club is hosting the Trius Technologies \$15,000 Pro Circuit Futures Tennis Tournament June 16-24. They are hosting a Kid's Day Carnival sponsored by Sutter Health on Monday June 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-10:00am. All kids ages 6-13 are welcome. Completion of qualifying matches will be played after the Kid's Day Carnival for whoever wants to watch.

### News from Steve Dunmore from Sierra View C.C & Sierra College Women's Tennis

Steve is very excited about his women's team at Sierra College this year. He is reporting that they have a legitimate

chance to win the state title. Steve is busy running his club programs at Sierra View and coaching the women.

### News from Sue Pritula Davis: Community Tennis & Schools Coordinator—Sacramento:

Sue is busy helping to run the SCTA. SCTA is a nonprofit corporation that helps grow tennis in the Sacramento and the surrounding area. Currently there are three Recreational Coaches Workshops, Notomas Racquet Club March 10, Park Terrace Swimming and Tennis Club March 24 and Laguna Creek Racquet Club March 31.

### News from www.tennisone.com

TennisONE is the oldest and best Web site to learn tennis on the net. You will find hundreds of lessons using video and text for coaches and players to download. The site is updated every week with three-four fresh new lessons.

TennisONE has introduced a new, free service called eTennisPro, a great new way of communicating and managing tennis programs and other sports programs. eTennisPro is designed to help tennis

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Ivan Ljubicic,  
ATP No. 5\*

\*ATP Ranking, Jan. 2007

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**USTA B18 National Team Championships** (*Boys 18s*) – Illinois July 28-31

**Zone Team Championships** (*Boys & Girls 12s & 16s*) – Arizona, Utah July 25-29

**USTA G18 National Team Championships** (*Girls 18s*) – San Rafael July 31 – August 3

**Zone Team Championships** (*Boys & Girls 14s*) – Florida July 8-12



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Interested in applying?

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# ❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



## Reno/Tahoe

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Hello from the Reno/Tahoe Region. It has been a very dry winter for us up here so far, which has been promoting more tennis and less skiing. Every time I drive by tennis courts in the area, I see lots of action, and yes, even in the cold weather of nine degrees back in January produced full court usage.

**The Biggest Little Tennis Association** recently received a substantial grant from USTA for their Washoe 'Kidz' Tennis Program. They have ten elementary schools that they will be teaching fifth and sixth graders during school and in the after-school portion they are introducing team tennis. The program anticipates that over 1,800 kids will be in the in-school program and another 300 kids will participate in team tennis. There are three tennis jamborees scheduled to be held at the Reno Tennis Center with a Rapid Rally Contest too. USPTA members **Mark Humes, Christy Brenner** and **Michelle McKibbin** are all involved in this program.

**Reno - Tahoe High School Senior Tennis Player Scholarship** has been offered for the third year. Four scholarships will be offered at \$500 each to high school seniors who have played tennis in high school with either USTA, local programs or high school tennis within their high school years in the Northern Nevada/Tahoe region. The scholarship is to be used to further their education, therefore, youth may apply only if they are going on to college. The deadline for submission is April 1 and winners will be announced by mid-May. This scholarship is made possible by donations from **The Biggest Little Tennis Association**, the **Reno Tennis Club** and from the following local tennis teaching professionals: **Custom Racquet, Ray Woolley; Jason Q, Inc., Jason Kedzierski; Lakeridge Tennis Club, John Matulak; Northstar Tennis, Malcolm Ridenour and Zeke Straw; Montreux Golf and Country Club, Laura Scott; Plexpave Sport Surfacing Systems, Robert Deller; Reno Tennis Center, Andres Durandegui, John Ebie, Paul Lam and Bibi Trpeska; USTA Reno/Tahoe Community Tennis**

## Coordinator/USPTA Reno/Tahoe Regional Director, Christy Funk.

Biggest Little Tennis Association is excited to announce that this year's **Reno/Tahoe Tennis Hall of Fame Gala** keynote speaker and clinician will be **Jeff Greenwald of Mental Edge International** who is a Californian. The gala is on Friday, November 16 and clinics Saturday, November 17. So .. **SAVE THE DATE.** If you are interested in attending, please visit [www.blta.usta.com](http://www.blta.usta.com) for detailed information.

Congratulations to **John Ebie** was recently voted USPTA NorCal Regional Vice-President. In 2006 John held the position of USPTA Norcal Secretary and Reno/Tahoe Regional Director. John was also selected as *USPTA Norcal Coach of the Year*. John is the girl's head coach for Reno High School. His team recently was the Reno/Tahoe Northern Nevada girl's zone winner and competed in Las Vegas to make the semi-finals, losing to a team from Las Vegas. John sends a huge thanks to **Gay Finch and Craig Gorbach** for all of their coaching tips. John traveled to the President Day tournament in Aptos, CA with two youth that he coaches from Lake Tahoe. These sisters, **Anja and Kelsey Wittle**, took second place in their divisions. Great job ladies and well done John! John will be taking 15 high school youths and parents to Stanford University to visit the school and watch top ranked college tennis players compete against the Stanford University tennis team. John hopes to make "*Send a Kid to College*" a yearly event. John sends a special thanks to Coach Dick Gould and Coach Lele for their hospitality.

USPTA members from the Reno/Tahoe area attended the 2007 Divisional Conference and have been praising the event since their return. Attending from the Reno / Tahoe area were **John Ebie, Christy Funk, Craig Gorbach, John Matthews** and high school coach **Hal Wilkins**. It was a great event and two of the presenters from the conference will be presenters at Reno/Tahoe Hall of Fame Gala: **Jeff Greenwald of Mental Edge International** in 2007 and **Scott Ford of Arete Sports** in 2008.

The Reno Tennis Club is excited to announce a bus trip to the **Sacramento Capitals vs. Newport Beach Breakers World Team Tennis** match on July 21. The bus will leave Reno, pick up a group from Truckee and go down to the match in Sacramento. A special clinic with Wayne Bryan is scheduled with the Reno/Tahoe group before the match. Anyone interested in the Reno/Tahoe area is asked to contact the group leader, Christy Funk at [c.funk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:c.funk@sbcglobal.net).

Congratulations to **Alpine Tennis' Andres Durandegui**, who will be the Director of Tennis at the Caughlin Club in Reno. Alpine currently contracts with the City of Reno for the Reno Tennis Center and will now be running all programs at the Caughlin Club.



## South Bay

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After 18 years at Courtside Club, USPTA Pro Mark Roberts is now heading up the Decathlon Club in Santa Clara as both the director of tennis and head pro. The potential of taking over a beautiful club and staying local was too much for Mark to turn down. The added benefit is that both clubs are owned by Western Athletic Clubs, so Mark will still get plenty of opportunities to fraternize with his old cohorts at Courtside!!!

San Jose Swim & Racquet Club, Almaden Swim & Racquet Club and Saratoga Country Club have set up a series of junior matches over the past few months to keep the novice to intermediate level juniors involved in match play. The matches are on weekends and are usually between 1-3 pm. Other clubs who would like to participate are welcome to contact **Ken DeHart at 408-892-3806.**

Congratulations to all the clubs and juniors who served as Ball Persons for the SAP Open again this year. Thanks to **Chuck Fowler** from **Saratoga Country Club** who spearheaded the program for 2007.

Local professional **Al Juodikis** from Almaden Golf and Country Club recently attended

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# ❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



## Monterey Bay

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Judy Newman of La Madrona Swim & Racquet Club reports that her junior program was extremely popular this summer with 150 participants and has slowed down because of the weather. She has 11 juniors that are now entering novice USTA tournaments. The club just hosted a member ski weekend. Their next event in March will be a Wine & Art affair with live music played by some of their members. Judy was also a speaker at the Women's Retreat at the Claremont Resort Feb. 25. Her topic was "Play your best when the going gets tough."

Marc Moran of Spanish Bay would like to thank Gay Finch, Kie Foreman, Steve Proulx, Susan Reeder and Bill Quario for coming out to see some of the best seminars we have ever had at a conference. If you missed Dr. David Porter, Ed.D. or Louis Cayer, they were AMAZING. One great quote from the divisional conference, "It's not the modern game, it's the current game."

The Fall Conference at Spanish Bay in November will feature some of the best pros in NorCal history and promises to give you drills, games and thoughts to help you immediately. As far as what's happening at the club, Matt Morillo and Whitney Vasu continue to expand their teaching. There are some large resort groups coming up in the next few months and an annual Friendship Cup with Round Hill Country Club.

Rick Kepler of Seascope Sports Club reports that he is looking to hire a full-time head professional. The job would entail teaching adult clinics, Cardio, USTA teams and private lessons. He would also like to have someone that is good with kid and is motivated to teach a lot. The job could pay \$75,000 for the right person. Please write him at his e-mail address: rick@seascopesportsclub.com. He is looking to hire ASAP. Rick also reports that the 75K Comerica Bank Challenger tournament is from July 14-22 this year.

Contact Rick if you would like to bring ball kids to this event.

Steve Proulx and Susan Reeder of Carmel Valley Tennis Camp report that they enjoyed the convention at Stanford and touching base with so many great pros! They felt that the trade show was the best ever to be able to see and talk to so many pros.

Kevin Fennelly reports that he is leaving Seascope to teach in Maui for two months and then will be moving to his new home in Rocklin where he will be getting involved in coaching and teaching. Aloha, Kevin!!!!

Brian Cory of CVAC said that the club just held a very successful NorCal Junior Open/Novice tournament over Feb. 3-4 and 10-11 weekends. There were a total of 132 kids entered. Some juniors were playing in their first tournament. Some of the many programs going on right now are men's and women's 3.5 and 4.0 USTA teams and one Super Senior 6.0. The Junior Academy is in full swing. CVAC had 40 juniors turn out for the annual club championships run by Brian over a two-month period. Congrats to Rick Kepler and Brian Cory for being ranked No. 1 in the nation for the fourth year in a row on the USTA Mens 35 National Doubles. Brian was also ranked No. 1 in NorCal Men's Open Doubles individual rankings.

Paul Zaretsky of Rio Del Mar reports that with great winter weather he's on the court more than ever. Junior clinics are filled with the next generation of players, he has a waiting list for both private and group lesson spots. Several of his long-time students have made the very strong Aptos High boys team as freshman. Rio del Mar has just approved a renovation of the clubhouse and expansion of the weight room facility which will accommodate the increased demand.

Wendy Grover, varsity girl's tennis coach at RLS in Pebble Beach, reported that she is preparing her players at ASDS, a junior high school team, for their season starting March 20. They will be playing all the junior highs in the Monterey/Carmel area. She would like to thank CVR, Meadowbrook and Spanish Bay for sharing their courts.

The pros at the Beach & Tennis Club, Kie Foreman, Bill Quario, Scott Braymer and Anthony Venable, have stayed busy throughout the winter by having a team tennis event with John Roddick who dropped by during the AT&T to host a clinic. On St. Patrick's weekend there was an inter-collegiate Men's Shoot-Out between Cal Berkeley, SMU, and University of SF. In April Stan Smith will be hosting some clinics, and in May there will be an Adult Nike Camp.

Shelly Scott, of Titus Park reports that she and her husband are gearing up for their two Nike camps this summer - one at Titus and the other at UCSD in LaJolla.

After 30 years of coaching both girls' and boys' high school tennis, Bill Scott is retiring as Salinas High boys' coach. Salinas has won the league in the four years that Bill has been coaching there. Gus Anderson has taken the boys' team and Bill will continue coaching the girls.

Shelly and partner, Kathy Vick, ended the 2006 year ranked No. 1 doubles team in the country. Shelly also represented NorCal at Intersectionals in Texas in November and came in third. Congrats, Shelly!!!!

Megan McKitterick of Seascope Sports Club reports that she is doing 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0 USTA clinics to get the teams ready for the season. She is also continuing with 10 weeks of tennis 101 on Fridays with six eager women. She is running round-robin drop-ins on Thursday and Fridays for men's 3.5 and women's 3.0 and 3.5. The kids clinics continue with the Mighty Mites and the Academy.

Gay Finch recently helped organize with Rosie Bareis a Women's Retreat at the Claremont Resort Feb 25. There was interest expressed at the division conference at Stanford at the beginning of Feb. So, for a first time it was pretty well attended by 17 pros from Santa Rosa to Carmel. Judy Newman and Wendy Grover attended and Gay was one of the five speakers on Cardio tennis. It was decided at the end of the day that there would be another retreat held in October. Gay is going to Super Senior Nationals in April in Charleston, SC. Her 4.0 senior team from Rio del Mar is headed to Districts in Fresno in April also.



# ❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



## Fresno

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It's been a thrill getting to know the movers and shakers of the NorCal USPTA during this past year. I've attended the last two division conferences at Stanford, the World Conference at Las Vegas and the Fall Conference at The Inn at Spanish Bay. I've learned so much about teaching tennis and have networked with so many inspirational professionals. I'm hoping that in 2007, more Fresno area USPTA Professionals will support, attend and learn something new at the fall conference or the division conference.

I'd like to extend a huge thank you to Neil Archer for his encouragement and guidance during the 2006 year. He's been a great mentor, colleague and friend. I wish him, and his family, the best as he enjoys the sunshine and hang-loose atmosphere of Hawaii. I'm trying to figure out a way to rationalize a Hawaiian seminar in 2007.

And now Paul Garron has the daunting task of taking me under his wing and guiding me through testing and continued education. It's also been wonderful to work with such terrific, enthusiastic and knowledgeable people as Rosie Bareis and Gay Finch, who are also becoming great friends and mentors.

The professionals in Fresno have been very busy with USTA leagues, tournaments and club activities. After this first newsletter article, I'm hoping that they'll all want to start logging their events so that I can include them in the next newsletter!

This month's focus will be on Sierra Sport and Racquet Club in Fresno. John Haug, director of tennis; Francisco Gonzalez, head pro (USPTA Pro 1); and Teresa Samstag-Haug (USPTA Pro 2) have been busy keeping Sierra members and their children involved in many tennis activities. Teresa does wonders with the Little Aces (aged 4-6) during weekly junior development clinics, while Francisco and John teach the intermediates and ad-

vanced kids. Monday night Ladies' league and Tuesday night Men's league fills the courts with members of all ages and abilities. Leagues run for seven-weeks and culminate in an Awards Dinner sponsored by Sierra.

Wine and cheese mixers, margarita mixers and club exchanges are held throughout the year and are enjoyed by the members. Club member-only tournaments are held during the year: Mixed Doubles Championships, Junior Championships, Singles and Doubles Championships and Senior Singles and Doubles Championships.

The USTA National Boys' and Girls' 18s Interscholastic Championships West will be held on April 21-25 and the USTA Boys' 12s National Open will be held on May 19-23, 2007. John has a select group of members and employees who help run the tournament desk with great efficiency.

Sierra also offers its courts to High School League Championships for girls and boys, as well as for the Central California Tennis Tournament (just held March 2-3). This is the largest high school tournament of its kind with 88 teams and 16 sites being used.

Sierra's Director of Fitness is Steve Sobonya, owner and head trainer of Progressive Sports Conditioning (PSC). Steve was a strength and conditioning coach at Fresno State for nine years before starting PSC. Steve holds a master's degree in exercise science and is certified as a strength and conditioning specialist by the National Strength and Conditioning Association. Sobonya trains athletes of all ages and physical ability, including many professional and Olympic athletes. Steve has designed fitness classes for the tennis enthusiast gearing the workout toward footwork, lateral movement and core and tennis strength.

Please put these dates on your calendars and plan ahead for upcoming educational opportunities through USPTA. Seminars offer new trends in education—an important element in keeping on top of our profession. It's your obligation to bring the latest teaching techniques to your students...and they're so much fun!!! USPTA World

Conference: September 17-22, 2007; NorCal Fall Conference at Inn at Spanish Bay: November 4-5, 2007; NorCal Division Conference at Stanford University: February 9-11, 2008

Enjoy the spring weather and make it your goal to increase USPTA membership, increase tennis players in your areas, and become a better-educated professional.

## East Bay News

Continued from page 4

member Brian is offering to assist fellow USPTA members who have any issues or concerns regarding growing the game in NorCal.

Diablo Country Club continues to increase participation in all areas, we have four USTA teams doubling last year's team total. In 2006 Diablo's 2.5 ladies when to nationals and mustered up fourth in the nation. Now we have a new team of 2.5s ready to go and this comes from a Tennis 101 program.

Sue Leo from Roundhill also shares the growth at a 2.5 level and is excited about the prospect of new players continually coming up in the club. Congratulations to Ankit Arora of Roundhill Country Club. Ankit began teaching full-time last June and has excelled passing his exams as a P-1 on his first attempt. Sue says it's great to see someone so talented join the tennis industry instead of taking the path so many do and join the business world so they can follow their passion. Ankit could easily taken a job in the business world but chose to have a goal of being a director of tennis one day.

We are generating an e-mail distribution list to increase the communication with East Bay USPTA Professionals. If you would like to be added to this list e-mail me at [dccnigel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dccnigel@sbcglobal.net). Also, if have anything to add in future East Bay News please e-mail me and I'll be sure to put something in for you.



# ❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



## Central Valley

*Jack Bracken*  
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The NorCal Spring Conference held at Stanford University was a huge success. Many thanks to the Board (NCUSPTA) who worked so hard to again bring our division a great conference.

Congratulations to the Central Valley Nor Cal USPTA division award winners. Modesto Fitness & Racquet Club received the coveted Facility of the Year award. Mark Fairchilds spoke about the club founders, Fred Earle and Fritz Earle, who were great tennis instructors from the 1960s through the 1990s. Then Al Brenda purchased the club in 1992 made several upgrades and improvements and hired the best tennis instructor available, who was a USPTA Pro and great athlete, Mark Fairchilds. Also, Jack Bracken, retired Modesto Junior College coach and professor

received the NorCal Regional Director of the Year award.

Bill Weber, former student and player on Bracken's 1976 tennis team, received the Rookie Pro of the Year award. Bill is very active at the Turlock Fitness & Racquet Club in Turlock. A week earlier he was also honored by the NorCal USPTA as Junior Area League Coordinator of the Year. Weber's fine salesmanship filled a bus with Turlock Fitness & Racquet Club members and went to the SAP Open! Go Bill!

Brian Heiser and Mark Fairchilds took a group to the Tennis Channel Open in Las Vegas. Everyone came home a winner! In mid-March, Brian and Mark will be hosting the Modesto Junior Championships at MF&RC. Shawn Black had beautiful weather in Modesto as he ran the 33<sup>rd</sup> MJC Invitational Tennis Tournament for 15 colleges.

It was great to have representation from the Central Valley Region at the Spring

Conference. Attendees to the conference from our area included Steve Tiffin, Scott Borowiak, Mark Fairchilds, Mark Wier, Brian Heiser, Jack and Julie Bracken, Jim Triolo, Bill Weber and Rosie Bareis.

Davis Cup legends moderator Scott Borowiak had many interesting questions for the legends to expand on and give us some things to think about when our USA team is playing in another country.

It's not easy to play on a strange surface with strangers around rooting against you. Thanks again, Scott. Thanks to Paul Garron, the board and Dick Gould for making the spring conference such a success.

Congrats to Rosie Baries on winning her second ball-feeding shootout contest. Now onto finals at the World Conference in September!



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# ❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖



## San Francisco

Jason Blum  
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On Sunday, April 29 from 2-4 p.m. at the Golden Gateway Tennis and Swim Club (located at 370 Drumm Street, San Francisco, CA 94111; off Embarcadero Street, and across the street from the Embarcadero Plaza), the San Francisco USPTA will be having a tennis gathering (open to all regions). Please RSVP by Friday, April 20 to Jason Blum at (415) 503-0946.

The San Francisco Tennis Coalition continues its outstanding grassroots work in fostering the game of tennis in the City of San Francisco. Without a doubt, the San Francisco Tennis Coalition has some important benchmarks and goals that they want to meet.

Kelly Parkinson writes - The San Francisco Tennis Coalition wants you and everyone you know to pick up a racquet and find a tennis team. To that end, they held a Spring Swing Event at the Golden Gate Park tennis clubhouse on Saturday. The Spring Swing, held in collaboration with the San Francisco Parks Trust and sponsored by the Bank of the West Tennis Classic, was the first in a series of events aimed to sign up companies and individuals for San Francisco's first World Team Tennis Corporate Tennis League. Winners fly to Los Angeles next fall to compete in the nationals and to meet tennis legend Billie Jean King. Contact San Francisco Parks Trust at [springswing@sftpt.org](mailto:springswing@sftpt.org) for more details.

Saturday's warm, sunny weather was great for the coalition's goal of courting players. But the coalition also hopes to aim a bit higher by solving a widespread problem. According to coalition Co-President Loretta Conway, only half of all the courts in San Francisco are playable. The coalition wants to change all that-starting with the city's crowning jewel, the courts at Golden Gate Park.

The coalition's proposed Golden Gate Tennis Project will add lights, widen the spaces between courts to regulation levels, rebuild the clubhouse and relocate it closer

to the street, build kids' courts with a backboard, and construct a pavilion featuring water fountains and built-in seating. In addition, the courts' many entrances will be consolidated to just one. "Plans were given to us from an architect for the USTA," said Conway.

The coalition plans to raise the entire project amount-estimated at \$15 million from individuals and families in San Francisco. They present their proposal to the city commissioner this month. If approved, they will start raising funds immediately. Conway estimates the fundraising process will take about a year. If all goes well, "We should break ground in the summer of '08, finishing by the summer of '09," said Conway.

Although the coalition still needs to get approval from the city commissioner, they've already begun the important work of educating the public. Golden Gate Park's tennis community is buzzing.

As tennis enthusiasts streamed in and out of the clubhouse at the Spring Swing event, one USTA umpire voiced a common complaint about the courts' safety. "It's dangerous to officiate here," said Shawn Lenihan, an official and ranked player. "The courts are so close together that you could easily get blindsided if someone angles a ball. It's a zoo. A lot of officials don't like to work here."

To remedy this problem, the coalition plans to add more space between courts.

Most people who play tennis in San Francisco agree that there aren't enough courts for everyone. But a few players voiced concerns that improving the Golden Gate Park courts would attract too many additional people. "To some extent, these concerns are understandable," said Conway. However, in the long run, everyone wins. "Sure, it will attract more residents to play here," she said. "But as the energy increases around tennis, we can use that energy to fund the renovation of all the other courts in San Francisco."

Eventually, the coalition plans to create an endowment fund to maintain the courts at Golden Gate Park and to fund needed

renovations to San Francisco's tennis courts.

If you play tennis and live in San Francisco, then you're already a member of the San Francisco Tennis Coalition. The San Francisco Tennis Coalition is a tennis advocacy group uniting people and organizations who care about tennis. The coalition cooperates with the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. When you make a contribution, you help develop a world-class tournament site, maintain public tennis facilities and programs, host engaging tennis events for all ages and abilities and create an endowment fund dedicated to tennis in San Francisco. To learn more about how you can help revitalize tennis in our city, visit the coalition's Web site at [www.sftenniscoalition.org](http://www.sftenniscoalition.org).

## Sacramento News

Continued from page 6

teaching pros run their tennis programs, but everyone will find it is a powerful communication and event management tool. For more details, go to: <http://www.tennisone.com/membership/etennispro/marketing/overview.php>.

### New Tennis Shop in Sacramento

Jordan Boyles, former Sac State Tennis standout, and partner Jason Somora, the former number one racquet ball player in California, have just teamed up and opened a brand new tennis shop in Fair Oaks, across from Rio Del Oro Racquet Club at 2326 Fair Oaks Blvd, Sacramento CA 95825. They specialize in 24-hour stringing, racquet customization, free racquet demo program, team order discounts and guaranteed the lowest and best prices. Currently they are looking to sponsor pros and programs, to get details call Jason or Jordan directly at (916) 646-6745.



# ❖ REGIONAL NEWS ❖

## South Bay News

Continued from page 8

and became certified in the Pat Etcheberry Strength and Conditioning two-day program.

**USPTA Pro Ken DeHart** recently participated in the USTA High Performance Coaching Continuing Education Program. This was an eight-hour look at communication skills between parents, coaches and juniors. NorCal Pro Jeff Greenwald was one of the key speakers on the psychology of when, where and how to present information to juniors and their parents at a variety of physical and emotional maturity levels.

Two best summer tennis tips from **USPTA Pro Ken DeHart**:

1. Go online to [ssvtennis.com](http://ssvtennis.com) and get a Serve, Stroke and Volley test that lets you evaluate progress of your students, rank your players, compares their scores with players around the world. Great for your summer junior programs and existing ones to justify who can move up and who is making the most improvement.
2. Use TennisOne's eTennisTeam to manage your USTA Teams, communicate within teams, design drills and more. It's FREE.

This is not an advertisement for these two sites just a great vehicle for us to make our job easier and more efficient.

Ken also attended an eight-hour Cardio Masters program directed by National Cardio Tennis Director Michele Krause for the National Cardio Instructional Team. Michele will be conducting a Cardio Tennis Training Program at Berkley on March 31. To register to attend this special workshop go to [www.growingtennistraining.com](http://www.growingtennistraining.com). This is a great opportunity to get trained in using Cardio Tennis for your club, team or facility.

NorCal's **USPTA Pro Barry Poole** has been invited to set up a program for the Police Departments Pal Program.

NorCal's own **TennisOne** has released a new program for tennis professionals called eTennisPro that allows pros to have a calendar that shows all your club events including dates, times and even provides online registration. Each e-mail you send

out to your members will have your picture and each e-mail will be personally addressed to individual club members - and it's FREE. What a neat thing to happen right here in NorCal.

**USPTA Pro Kathy Barnes** has been working with the USTA ladies at Almaden Swim & Racquet Club. They are getting ready for the season. They did great last year, the 2.5 team made it to the districts and the 3.0 and 3.5 teams made it to the nationals. She played the Mission Hills tournament this year in January and won the doubles and she has been invited to play on the Maureen Connolly Cup Team in Turkey in April. Good luck Kathy!

**USPTA Wendy Grover** just finished with her Stevenson High School girl's tennis team here in Pebble Beach, CA. They were league champions in November. Now she is coaching the All Saints' Episcopal Day School Junior High School team through May.

**USPTA Pro Riaz Shivji** reports **Peninsula Tennis Club** is hosting the 21st annual BonneBell Cup on March 29-31. This event features the top six 14-and-under girls from the U.S. against the top six from Australia. Admission is free and there will be some great tennis during the three days of matches. Please call Riaz at the club for match time and information.

The RS Tennis Academy Ballkids team, which is in its sixth year worked the semi-final matches at the SAP Open this past February. The team was lucky enough to ballkid the Roddick vs. Murray match on Saturday night and had a great time all week.

Spring RS Tennis Academy programs include Green Star (Beg/Novice), Blue Star (Intermediate), Red Star (Middle School), Jr. Academy (10-12 yr Novice Tournament players) and Academy (12-17 yr Tournament players).. For Academy information please contact Riaz at (650) 347-1440 or [riaz@rstennis.com](mailto:riaz@rstennis.com).

**USPTA Pro Jason Scalese** is happy to report that his Mitty women's tennis team won their second West Catholic Athletic League title in the league's five-year

existence. The Monarchs advanced to the CCS semifinals. However, Jason's Mitty team was most proud of its work to promote cancer awareness following the lead of Senior Team Captain Alexis Reilly of Los Gatos who is a Hodgkin's Lymphoma survivor by wearing pink cancer awareness visors all year, pink Adidas tennis sneakers, black and pink WCAL Champion sweatshirts to go along with their black and white uniforms. The Monarchs are also excited about their annual "unofficial" kick-off to the season participating in the Los Gatos Relay for Life inspired and created by team Captain Alexis Reilly and promise to continue to promote cancer awareness long after Alexis graduates this spring. The event is held in late August and welcomed participants from St. Francis and Los Gatos High School as well.

**USPTA Pro Todd Dissly** will host a **USTA Recreational Coaches Workshop** - If you hire seasonal tennis instructors, parents and high school coaches, others interested in teaching new players of all ages. The workshop will be held at Los Gatos High School on May 6. This six-hour workshop will cover:

- Large group teaching for youth and adults.
- Team practice for youth and adults.
- Tennis technique - current trends and progressions.
- Teaching with the Rally and Play approach.
- Effective use of teaching aids.

For more information or to register contact **Hilary Somers** at (650) 595-2488 or e-mail her at [somers@norcal.usta.com](mailto:somers@norcal.usta.com); or **Todd Dissly** (408) 746-3685, e-mail: [tdizz@lgta.net](mailto:tdizz@lgta.net)

**USPTA Junior Cup Series** - I am looking for multiple sites and tournament directors to host a NEW Junior Cup series. We start in September or October of 2007 and end in May of 2008. Each area will have two to four tourneys per season (fall/spring) with a Tournament of Champions for each region in the middle of May and then the Champions Cup on June 2, 2008 at Stanford. For more information call **Todd Dissly** (408) 746-3685 or [tdizz@lgta.net](mailto:tdizz@lgta.net)

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### **2007 Deadlines**

March 5, 2007  
June 5, 2007  
September 5, 2007  
November 30, 2007

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  - \* Antonio Burgos
  - \* Jan Carson
  - \* Casey Connaway
  - \* Christopher Duarte
  - \* Svetoslav Elenkov
  - \* John Fry
  - \* Toru Fukumoto
  - \* Gregory Gaskin
  - \* Rhonda Gibbs
  - \* William Haardt
  - \* Michael Harter
  - \* Brent Hermsmeier
  - \* Linda Paulding
  - \* Terry Roundtree
  - \* Keith Segel
  - \* Sally Shaw
  - \* Harold Wagner
- Salinas, CA
  - Livermore, CA
  - Seaside, CA
  - Point Richmond, CA
  - Reno,, NV
  - Windsor, CA
  - San Jose,, CA
  - Campbell, CA
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  - Los Gatos, CA
  - S. Lake Tahoe, CA
  - Pleasanton, CA
  - Mill Valley, CA
  - San Francisco, CA
  - Sam Jose, CA
  - San Francisco, CA
  - Menlo Park, CA
  - Sam Jose, CA
  - Reno, NV
  - San Ramon, CA

## **❖ Reinstated Members ❖**

- \* Yvonne Gallop
  - \* Gregory Parkerson
  - \* Brandt Rossi
  - \* David Stanisic
  - \* David Whetstone
- San Francisco, CA
  - Sacramento, CA
  - Berkeley, CA
  - Sonoma, CA
  - Orangevale, CA

## **❖ Testing Schedule ❖**

- \* April 23 - 24
  - \* June 4 - 5
  - \* August 27 - 28
- San Francisco, CA
  - Redwood City, CA
  - Sacramento, CA

## **❖ Dates That Rate ❖**

- \* April 1, 2007
  - \* April 20 - 22, 2007
  - \* May 12, 2007
  - \* June 2007
  - \* June 3, 2007
  - \* August 19, 2007
  - \* September 17-22, 2007
  - \* October 2007
  - \* November 3, 2007
  - \* November 4 - 5, 2007
- Board Conference Call
  - Executive Committee Meeting - Houston
  - Tennis Across America
  - Pro Penn Ball Month
  - Board Conference Call
  - Board Conference Call
  - World Conference, Wesley Chapel, FL
  - Lessons for Life™ Month
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