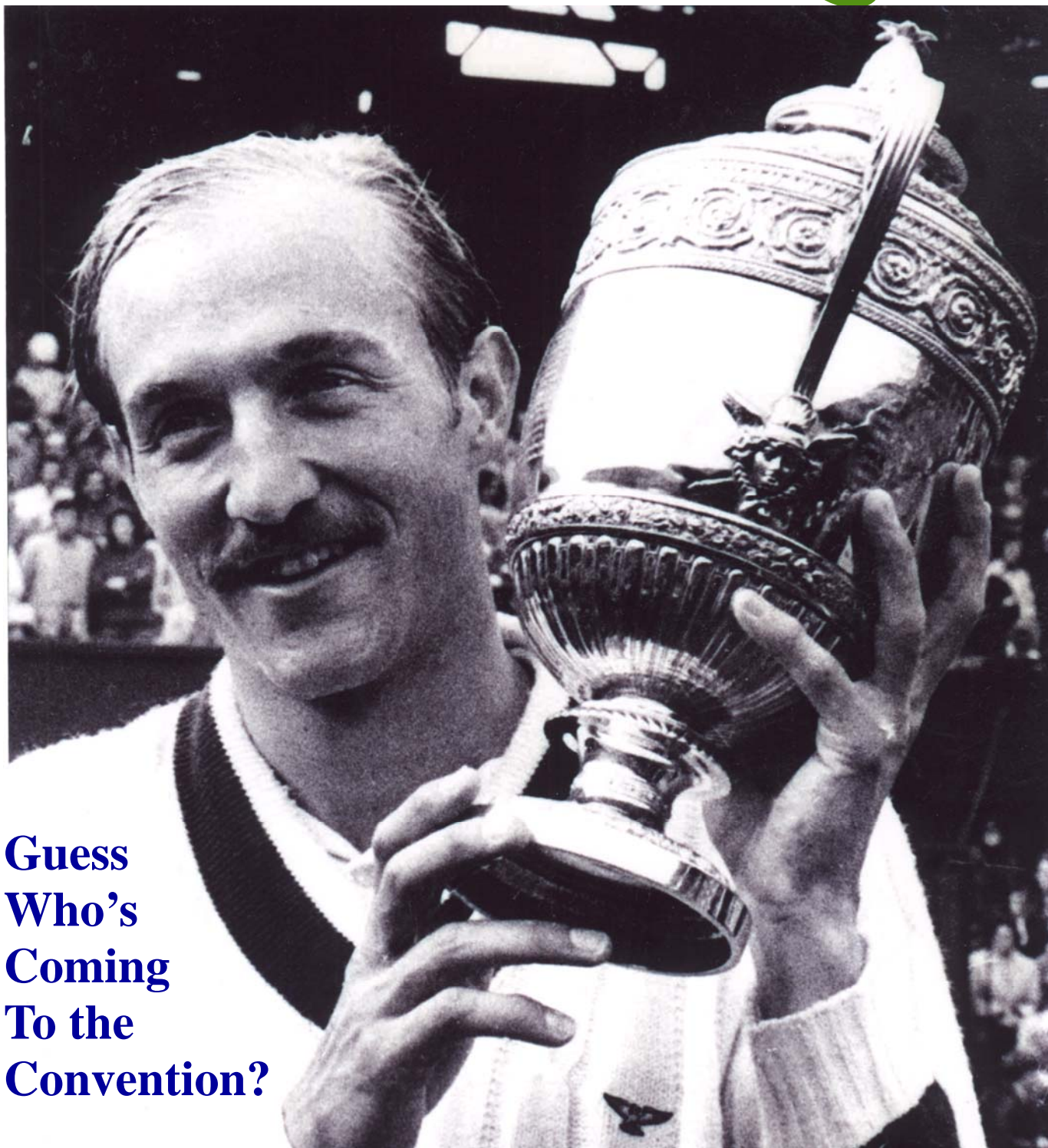


USPTA NorCal

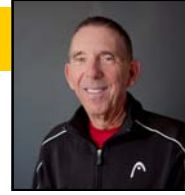
December 2011

Northern California *ProFiles*



**Guess
Who's
Coming
To the
Convention?**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Wow! A whole year has passed as President of NorCal USPTA. However, this message is not about me but about the state of NorCal USPTA and USPTA National.

2012 saw a NorCal Board that was determined to get the USPTA brand out to the public and to better promote our events to the pros. We increased our ad presence in *Inside Tennis* from three yearly ads to eight and we will continue to do so in 2012. Our email blasts before conferences or specialty courses have been stepped up to four blasts starting a month before each event to create more awareness.

USPTA National went through a bruising election in 2011. Keeping the NorCal pros in the loop was important to the board, thus the several emails I sent to our membership explaining the situation. After a successful Executive Committee meeting at the World Conference in September I believe the National Board and Executive Committee will now heal its wounds and carry on with business.

We held quality events in Northern California this year: a three-day annual convention, a two-day fall conference, three specialty courses, a women's retreat, two successful Ladies Invitational events and a junior circuit that culminated with the junior champions being presented on court at the Bank of the West tournament. All this kept the board busy.

We have a great lineup for our Winter Convention at Stanford in February — read further in the newsletter for details. In the upcoming year, we will again be offering the full calendar of events with the exception of the Fall Conference, which is being replaced in 2012 by the World Conference being held in Monterey in September. It is an exciting opportunity to have this high-quality conference in our own backyard!

One area in which the board would like to see improvement is more participation in our conferences and specialty courses by the young pros in the business. We offered one specialty course this year with a "two for the price of one" built in. For the February convention, we will be offering a \$50 registration fee for an assistant pro when his/her Director or Head Pro pre-registers. The board will be forming a committee in 2012 to further study this important issue. Feel free to email me with any ideas you have in this matter or if you would like to be involved with this committee.

In the programming area in 2012, we will add a Specialty Course in November. I also believe that in the upcoming year, USPTA pros could introduce local junior flex leagues using CourtsideUSA. One other matter I am discussing with the National Board is the possibility of hosting the USPTA Player Development Course, "The Spanish Way to Develop Players," on the West Coast.

And finally, let's welcome our newest USPTA NorCal board member Hans Römer. Jason Blum has been invited to serve on the board in an advisory, non-voting role. Nigel Pugh is also going to join our board meetings as a non-voting liaison to USTA NorCal. Michael Friedman has graciously agreed to come back on board in the role of Past President since Mike Galli has moved to Texas. Mike has graciously offered to bring Texas barbeque ribs to our 2012 Winter Convention.

See you at Stanford,

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Northern California**

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925-518-4235

Executive Director

Elaine Hennessy
925-478-9465
ncuspta@gmail.com

DATES THAT RATE

DATE	EVENT
Feb. 13 - 19	SAP Open
Feb. 17	Certification Review and Testing, Stanford University
Feb. 17 - 19	Division Convention, Stanford University
April 2 - 3	Certification Review and Testing, SF Tennis Club
June 4 - 5	Certification Review and Testing, SF Tennis Club
July 9 - 15	Bank of the West Classic
Aug. 20 - 21	Certification Review and Testing, SF Tennis Club
Sept. 16 - 21	USPTA World Conference on Tennis, Monterey, Calif.
Nov. 26 - 27	Certification Review and Testing, SF Tennis Club

Newsletter Submissions:

Please send all newsletter submissions in a Word document to Elaine Hennessy at ncuspta@gmail.com 925-478-9465

USPTA Northern California Newsletter is published quarterly. It is distributed via email in March, June and September, and printed and mailed in December.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Northern California Division.

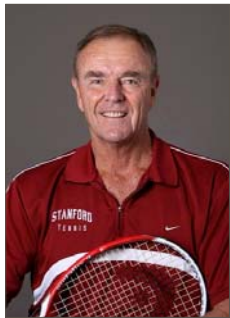
ADVERTISING INFORMATION

Ads can be in color or black and white and all ads must be camera ready. Prices are per issue.

- Full page: \$250
- 3/4 page: \$200
- 1/2 page: \$150
- 1/4 page: \$125
- Business Card: \$40



*Best wishes for a healthy
and happy New Year from
the NorCal USPTA
Board of Directors!*



2012 USPTA Northern California Division
ANNUAL CONVENTION
 Stanford University
 February 17-19

Host and Speaker Dick Gould

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

- 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Conference Registration
 9 - 10:15 a.m. *Teaching in Progressions: Building Foundations of Great Coaching:* **Tim Mayotte** courtesy of **HEADPenn**
 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. *Developing Feel on the Volley for Today's Game:* **Stan Smith** courtesy of **Prince**
 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Trade Show Exhibitors / Product Raffle at 12:30 p.m.
 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch on own (Jimmy's Sports Café is open)
 1 - 3 p.m. Exhibitors On Court
 2 - 3 p.m. Cardio Shootout Feeding Contest
 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. *3D Analysis of the Modern Backhand and Its Application for Teaching Pros:* **Brian Gordon**
 4:15 - 5:15 p.m. *Baseball and Tennis: Where They Join and Where They Part:* **Marvin Dent** courtesy of **USTA Northern California**
 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Pro Staff Meetings
 6:30 p.m. Awards Banquet sponsored by **SAP Open** with **Stan Smith** as the Keynote Speaker, followed by *Meet the Living Legends:* **Stan Smith, Tim Mayotte and Erik van Dillen** with emcee **Scott Borowiak**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Cardio Tennis Workout
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Conference Registration
 9 - 10:15 a.m. *Corrective Stroke Techniques from Club to High School Players:* **Doug King**
 10:15 - 11:30 a.m. *Team Practices from Club to High School to College:* **Dick Gould**
 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch on own (lunch may be preordered with registration - Jimmy's Sports Café is not open)
 11:30 - 12:15 p.m. Women's Meeting (all women attendees are welcome)
 12:15 - 1 p.m. Regional Directors' Meeting
 1 - 2 p.m. *USTA High School Panel and Round Table:* Speakers TBA
 1 - 2 p.m. *3D Analysis of the Serve: Practical Use for the Teaching Pro:* **Brian Gordon**
 1 - 5 p.m. *Teaching in Progressions: A Deeper Look:* **Tim Mayotte** courtesy of **HEADPenn**
 (Specialty Course - additional fee required and can only be purchased with a full conference registration or day fee - see next page for registration options)
 2:15 - 3:15 p.m. *Practice Training with the Four Cs:* **Marvin Dent** courtesy of **USTA Northern California**
 3:15 - 4:45 p.m. *Doubles Success: Tactics and Team Building:* **Mark Fairchild and Kathy Toon**
 5 - 6 p.m. General Meeting featuring **Jeff Hawes**, USPTA National Vice President
 6 p.m. *Battle of the Regions:* 10 and Under Style Team Doubles, pizza and beer sponsored by **Har Tru Sports**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Conference Registration
 8 a.m. - Noon *10 and Under Tennis for the Club Professional:* **Todd Dissly** (FREE Specialty Course if a full convention registration or day fee was purchased. This specialty course may be purchased alone for \$40)

Also on Friday, February 17

- 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. *USPTA Certification Testing

*You must register through World Headquarters for PTCAI, Certification Exams and Upgrades. Call (800) 877-8248.

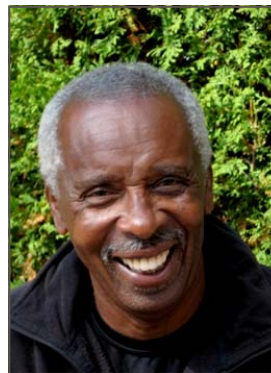
Featured Speakers



Stan Smith
Sponsored by Prince



Tim Mayotte
Sponsored by HEADPenn



Marvin Dent
Sponsored by USTA NorCal



Brian Gordon



Erik van Dillen



Mark Fairchild



Todd Dissly



Doug King



Kathy Toon

USPTA NorCal and Har Tru Sports will give everyone who PRE-REGISTERS for the FULL convention a complimentary ticket to the SAP Open final on Sunday, Feb. 19. Doubles final at 1 p.m. Singles final at 3 p.m. Ticket provided when you check in at the convention. Additional tickets may be purchased.

SPECIALTY COURSES

Specialty Course No. 1 (description below)

Presented by **Tim Mayotte** courtesy of **HEADPenn**
 Title: *Teaching in Progressions: A Deeper Look*
 Date: Saturday, February 18
 Time: 1 - 5 p.m.
 Cost: \$40 in addition to full convention registration or day rate.
May not be purchased alone.

Specialty Course No. 2

Presented by: **Todd Dissly** and **USTA**
 Title: *10 and Under Tennis for the Club Professional*
 Date: Sunday, February 19
 Time: 8 a.m. - Noon
 Cost: Free if full convention registration or a day rate is purchased.
May be purchased alone for \$40.

Teaching in Progressions Specialty Course:
Tennis is best learned and taught in a systematic way. This course will help coaches identify problems in a player's game and map out a path to improvement by moving step by step. Progressions will be demonstrated on real players.

Social Tennis: Join the NorCal USPTA "Battle of the Regions" – a must-do on Saturday night (what else do you have to do!?) When you register, sign up for this fun event. Teams from different regions will be formed to play each other in an exciting, timed 10 and Under style tournament. Team matches will be held on 36' (red ball), 60' (orange), and 78' (control) courts. Beer and Pizza to follow! **Sponsored by Har Tru Sports**

REGISTRATION

Name _____ USPTA No. _____
 E-mail _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

(if applicable) **Head Pro or Director at:**

Name of Asst. Pro You Are Registering:

Register on-line @ www.norcaluspta.com
 or send this form with a check payable to
 NorCal USPTA to: Questions?
 Elaine Hennessy ncuspta@gmail.com or
 NorCal USPTA 925-478-9465
 1059 Winton Drive
 Walnut Creek, CA 94598

CONVENTION SITE:
 Taube Family Tennis Center, Stanford University
 Campus Drive at Sam McDonald Rd

HOTEL RESERVATIONS
 Call the Sheraton Palo Alto directly at
 650-328-2800 and identify yourself as a USPTA
 NorCal Conference attendee. Our special
 conference rate is \$115 per room per night
 (breakfast is NOT included with this rate.)
 The Sheraton is located at 625 El Camino Real,
 Palo Alto, 94301.
Rate guaranteed through January 24

PARKING AT STANFORD
 Check the NorCal web site as the convention
 draws near to see updated parking information.

FULL PACKAGE includes **TICKET TO
 SAP OPEN FINAL**, conference guide,
 seminars, general membership meeting,
 awards banquet, social tennis with pizza.

DAY RATES include conference guide,
 seminars and events for that day. They do
 not include ticket to the SAP Open Final.

PAYMENT POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 27, 2012	
<input type="checkbox"/> USPTA Member: Early Bird Full Package	\$150
<input type="checkbox"/> Non USPTA Member: Early Bird Full Package	\$175
POSTMARKED AFTER JANUARY 27, 2012	
<input type="checkbox"/> USPTA Member: Full Package	\$175
<input type="checkbox"/> Non USPTA Member: Full Package	\$225
<input type="checkbox"/> Director or Head Pro can bring one assistant (if pre-registered at the same time)	\$ 50
Day Rates	
<input type="checkbox"/> Friday (includes Awards Banquet)	\$110
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Seminars (includes all regular seminars - not the Specialty Course)	\$120
<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday Special (includes two morning seminars and Specialty Course)	\$100
Specialty Courses - Read Carefully	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mayotte Specialty Course - if you purchased a Full Package or Friday Day Rate - cannot be purchased alone	\$ 40
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-Under Specialty Course - if you purchased a Full Package or any Day Rate (free but must reserve spot)	FREE
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-Under Specialty Course - if you are attending only this Specialty Course and none of the rest of the convention	\$ 40
Pre-order Bag Lunch for Saturday only - Jimmy's Café is NOT open for walk-up business. Lunch includes sandwich, drink, cookie, fruit. Specify turkey, roast beef, vegetarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bag lunch Saturday:	\$ 10

*****IMPORTANT*****
PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING:
It helps our organization save money and reduce waste
 Yes ___ No ___ Awards Banquet and Legends (Fri. Feb. 17, 6:30 p.m.)
 Yes ___ No ___ Playing in the 10 and Under Style Team Tennis
 (Sat. Feb. 18, 6 p.m.)
There are no additional charges for these events, but you MUST RSVP

Introducing USPTA NorCal's Newest Board Members...

Hans Römer - Vice President



It is a sincere honor to serve on the Board of Directors for USPTA NorCal in the capacity of Vice President. I have been very fortunate knowing many fine teaching professionals in this great division and I look forward to meeting many more in the near future. After serving on the USPTA California and New England Boards for a combined period of seven years, I feel well prepared to make some dedicated and creative contributions to the NorCal Division. We have a very talented group of people serving on the Board, including our Regional Directors and ED, and I truly believe, in conjunction with the innovative approach of USTA

NorCal, that we are entering a new era for NorCal tennis. On a personal note, I am proud to host the USPTA World Conference in Monterey as Club Owner and Director of Tennis, as well as Vice President for the NorCal Division. I truly expect a high percentage of NorCal professionals to attend this great annual event right in our backyard. My wife Kristin, and my yellow labradors Deke and Kip, will be complaining mildly due to a little less attention, but they understand that I am passionate about this wonderful opportunity to serve on this Board. I look forward to seeing you all at the USPTA NorCal Winter Convention, the SAP Open, The Bank of West Classic and/or at the USPTA World Conference. Ready to serve you, Hans

Michael Friedman - Past President



Michael Friedman Steps Up to Serve... Again

I have had a long career teaching tennis in Northern California. My profession started in 1973 at Golden Gate Park, but I wasn't certified by the USPTA until 1990. I thought my career was going great and didn't need to be certified. Was I ever wrong! Once I joined the USPTA and started attending conferences and networking with the NorCal pros, I gained a whole new respect for our profession. I am fortunate to be teaching tennis in Northern California, and value and respect the knowledge,

creativity and enthusiasm I have gleaned from my fellow pros.

I served on the NorCal USPTA Board of Directors from 1997 to 2003 and held the office of President from 2000 to 2001. Since leaving the Board, I have served on the NorCal Nominating Committee, which interviews and nominates prospective Board members. At the end of this year's interview process, I was asked to fill the opening of Past President by our current President John Sharpe, and I am happy to accept. I feel very strongly that we have the best division in the USPTA -- the best pros, the best conferences and the best Board of Directors. I can be counted on to support our Board and our division in 2012. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Jason Blum - Advisory Member



I am thrilled to have been selected to serve you all on the NorCal USPTA Board. Since 2003, I have been the San Francisco USPTA Regional Director for NorCal. I understand the tennis-teaching professional on-the-court as well as off-the-court. I will continue my Regional Director duties as well as being a NorCal USPTA Board Member. On the Board, I have an advisory role and will be working on special projects to benefit us all. I

welcome any suggestions and/or feedback from you. I can be reached via email at jblum@usptapro.com.

I look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming NorCal USPTA Conference at Stanford University this coming February 2012. It will be an awesome conference. Have a good Holiday Season and 2012.

Sincerely, Jason Blum

Nigel Pugh - USTA Liaison



I've been fortunate to be involved with many associations throughout my career, both in the US and Australia, and look forward to joining the NorCal USPTA Board to serve the membership. Throughout my career as an instructor I have experienced many positions from junior instructor, head pro, director, representative coach to tour traveling pro. I feel I have a good understanding of what pros go through on a daily basis. Prior to moving to the US I served on the NSW Tennis Association with the Junior Development Council and Coaches Examiners Committee. I truly believe there's no substitute for education and belonging to an association. I have enjoyed learning from every professional I have met over the past 20

years, particularly here in NorCal.

I'm particularly interested in enhancing the relationship between the USTA and the USPTA because success can be much greater for all when working together. Currently I'm heavily involved with USTA NorCal as the committee chair for 10 and Under Tennis and as a member of the USTA NorCal Coaches Commission. I'm excited to be named for the position of USTA Liaison for USPTA NorCal. Now is an exciting time for tennis with so many new initiatives and ideas available. With increased collaboration and networking, the future looks bright for tennis pros and administrators in NorCal. Feel free to contact me with any suggestions/questions or ideas. I relish the opportunity to speak with fellow professionals.

Cheers, Nigel

AWARDS NOMINATIONS FOR 2011

Due by Dec 28

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2011 USPTA NorCal awards. The winners will be honored at the Awards Dinner at the NorCal Division Convention at Stanford University, Feb. 17, 2012.

You can self-nominate or nominate others. You are the most familiar with your accomplishments, and most likely have access to any supporting documentation for your nomination.

CATEGORIES:

- Professional of the Year
- Associate Professional of the Year
- Rookie of the Year
- Regional Director of the Year
- College Coach of the Year
- High School Coach of the Year
- Men's and Women's Open Player of the Year
- Men's and Women's Senior Player of the Year
- Facility of the Year
- Facility Manager of the Year

Criteria for each award can be found at www.norcaluspta.com under the Awards tab

We have made it easy for you
to nominate worthy candidates!

Here's how you do it:

- Send an e-mail to: hyeslk@att.net with the nominee's contact information or complete and send the information on the right side of this page.
- The NorCal Awards Committee will contact the individual
Questions? Sandra Gostanian: 559-285-9332

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Nominee _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Phone h _____

Phone w _____

Phone c _____

E-mail _____

Club/Facility _____

USPTA # _____

Award _____

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

You must send supporting documentation if you are self-nominating. If you are nominating others, we will contact the individual to have them send the documentation. The NorCal Awards Committee does not have the time or resources to research every nominee submitted by name only.

SEND TO:

USPTA NorCal Awards
Sandra Gostanian
443 W. Fremont
Fresno, CA 93704

To the best of my knowledge, all material I have forwarded to the NorCal Awards Committee is truthful and accurate.

Signature _____

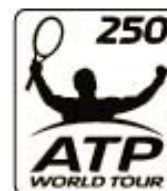
Print Name _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

SAP open

February 13 - 19
 HP Pavillon at San Jose



Raonic • Monfils • Roddick • McEnroe • Blake

THE ELITE STAFF PROGRAM. The SAP Open has an incredible opportunity for all NorCal USPTA Tennis Professionals. The Bay Area's finest pros can partner with NorCal's premier men's professional tennis tournament. To learn more about the many benefits of our Elite Staff Program and how you can personally keep \$5 - \$36 per ticket sold please visit the following website or contact a SAP Open Ticket Sales Coordinator.

www.sapopentennis.com/Tickets/EliteStaff.asp
 Zach Plaza at (408) 999-5760 / Kelley Cianciolo at (408) 999-5723

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SCHEDULE OF PLAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13 - 7:00PM	TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - 7:00PM
Doubles Exhibition Featuring McENROE/RAONIC vs. MONFILS/BLAKE followed by FEATURED MAIN DRAW MATCH	Featuring JAMES BLAKE (1st Round Singles) followed by SAM QUERREY (1st Round Singles)
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - 7:00PM	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16 - 7:00PM
Featuring ANDY RODDICK (2nd Round Singles) followed by MILOS RAONIC (2nd Round Singles)	Featuring GAEL MONFILS (2nd Round Singles) followed by FEATURED MAIN DRAW MATCH

(Players And Times Subject To Change - 2nd Round Matches Due To New 28 Singles Draw)

Ladies Invitational October 15-16, Spanish Bay

Jeff Gonce, Tournament Director
Matthew Morillo, Host



3.5 Participants: Ed Mitchell Park, Sierra Sport and Racquet Club, Ruby Hill, Golden Gators, Spanish Bay, Pebble Beach, Mt Eden and Presidio.



4.0 Participants: ClubSport Fremont, Coastside Tennis Club, Six Racqueteers, Tennis Aces, Spanish Bay, Silicon Valley Sluggers, Mervyn Morris, Ladies in Red



3.5 Winners — Ed Mitchell Park



4.0 Winners — ClubSport Fremont

Tennis - for the health of it! Wellness Tip

By Brett Stephenson, USPTA P-1
Chair, USPTA NorCal Wellness Committee



Happy holidays to everyone. As we know, with intense shopping, partying and interacting, the holidays are not always so happy. That means stress levels are on the rise and having an effect on all parts of the body. First and foremost the stress affects the brain. The brain then “processes” the stress and sends it throughout the body. Logic would be to “deactivate” the stress in the brain before it gets to the entire body! The best defense and offense against stress is meditation.

Meditation decreases the release of stress hormones and increases feel-good chemicals in the brain. Meditation also strengthens the immune system and improves memory. Meditation is a large word and encompasses many forms and practices, both active and passive. Of course if you are sedentary, then active meditations are more beneficial. Active people like USPTA professionals benefit most from passive, seated meditations. A simple meditation is repeating one word or a phrase like: “Om” (I am) or “Om Shanti” (I am peace) which are called mantras. Sanskrit words are used frequently because it is a non-spoken, dead language, but a simple use of colors like brown-blue-gray works just as well. Simply sit quietly (or lie down) away from people and distractions, so the mind can focus inward. Repeat the chosen mantra slowly over and over. Gradually the conscious mind begins to unwind and the subconscious mind activates to create a peaceful state of mindless being. When meditating, the mind can wander and other thoughts may invade the peaceful bliss. Do not take ownership of any of these thoughts or drift away from your repeated mantra. Meditating 10 to 20 minutes per day is very effective. These efforts will bring immediate change of openness, calmness and focus to the brain and body systems.

Executive Wellness Services is a company of world-class professionals providing tennis, massage, personal training, yoga and nutrition, to Bay Area corporations, residential communities and fine hotels. These services are delivered directly to the office, apartment, home or suite. For more information visit website at www.synergyhousing.com/executivewellness or call 925-683-2460.



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The official distributor of Nike
footwear and apparel to the USPTA.

<http://uspta.frommuthtennis.com>

Meet Our Newest Regional Director

Andrew Fearnside, Sacramento Region

Hi everyone, my name is Andrew Fearnside and I'm the new NorCal USPTA Regional Director for the Sacramento area. I thought I'd tell you a little about myself: I was the Tennis Director at Natomas Racquet Club for five years before moving with my family to Tiburon. After a year there, I started the Fearnside Tennis Academy at the Livermore Valley Tennis Club, where I worked for five years until my family and I moved back to the Sacramento area. I'm currently working at Rio Del Oro Racquet Club with Todd Stanley, Rich Andrews and the Spare Time family of clubs and pros. I currently hold a Level 1 certification with the USPTA and PTCA. I also hold a Level 1 certification with the USTA for Sport Science. I'm looking forward to working with you all, promoting your programs and this great game.



SACRAMENTO

Andrew Fearnside

fearnside@tennisacademy@yahoo.com

It was great to see so many of you at the Spare Time Indoor Tennis Center for the Fall Conference. I wish I could have stayed longer but I was just coming off knee surgery and limping around wasn't fun. Don't forget, the USPTA NorCal Division Convention is at Stanford February 17-19. Let's have a big number of our Sacramento pros representing. Hope to see you all there.

Patrick Rutz reports that Spare Time finished up a great year of 10 and under tennis with its second USTA Early Development Camp on November 19 at Broadstone Racquet Club. Sacramento is one of only four areas in the country that have been awarded Early Development Camps. Forty players participated in the five-hour camp. Doug Atkinson and Patrick Rutz directed the camp along with nine of the area's tennis pros: Rob Kendall, Kelly Wilson, Andrew Fearnside, Courtney Atkinson, Karina Jarlkganova, Larry Lambert, Nick Gwerder, Reed Stout and Haley Marais. The camp is designed to provide training and competition for the areas competitive 10 and under players. It topped off a great year for Spare Time where over 800 kids participated in the 10 and under leagues in Sacramento.

Brian Martinez at Natomas Racquet Club reports that the 2011 Natomas Challenger was a huge success. It was the strongest field in years with quality players including James Blake, Ivo Karlovic, Sam Querry, Bobby Reynolds and Jack Sock competing for the \$100,000 prize money. Ivo Karlovic defeated James Blake in the singles final and Carsten Ball with Chris Guccione from Australia won the doubles event.

After graduating three players from last year's roster, Sacramento State has almost a whole new team. This year's eleven man roster has seven new freshman tennis players and four returning players.

The Hornets competed in four preseason tournaments and it was a great chance to see how these new players compete and react under pressure. Freshman standout Roy Brandys had the most wins in preseason. The best singles results of the preseason came from senior captain Javier Millan and freshman Marek Marksoo. They both reached the round of 32 of the 128-player ITA regional qualifier by defeating players from Cal and Oregon. Assistant Coach Kevin Kurtz reports that this year's team is one of the hardest working team he has ever coached with each player committed to improving his game on and off the court. Sac State's first home matches are against Weber State on February 18 and UC Davis on February 19. High school coaches and tennis coaches are encouraged to bring their players to watch these two great matches.



*USTA Early Development
Camp at Broadstone
Racquet Club*



NAPA-SOLANO

Mark Hansen
mhansen@milleniumsportsclub.com

It was nice to see some of you at the Fall Conference. There were a lot of great local speakers as well as Boise State Head Coach Greg Patton. After talking to Greg, or attending one of his presentations, you can't help but be energized and optimistic about tennis and your job as a tennis professional!

Here is some news and updates from around our area:

Chris Arns, Napa Valley County Club, has been named to the USTA Coaches Commission for 2012, with the intention of finding talented junior players and sending them to Regional Training Centers, and hosting High Performance Camps, specifically on clay in the spring.

Adam Borttorff, Solano Athletic Club, reports that 2011

was the biggest year at the club in terms of participation and programs. The junior QuickStart program is ending with an Indoor Championship. Adam added Dartfish Video to his lesson program and was enthused with the results. SAC continues to run a variety of USTA junior and adult tournaments.

Lucas Burger, Stonegate Tennis Academy, also reports having a great year in 2011. He is happy to have Karin Strong back teaching after taking time off to play grandma. Lucas is also looking forward to having his brother back teaching after Vaclav had his second shoulder surgery of 2011.

Mark Hansen, Millennium Vacaville, had a great time hosting a free 10 and Under Tennis Carnival with the help of USTA NorCal rep, Cheryl Silva. We had a limit of 30 juniors but ended up with 34. I recommend this program to all the pros and the USTA Nor Cal is lots of help. Just contact them.

I hope to see all of you at the Spring Conference, February 17, 18 and 19 at Stanford!!

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SAN FRANCISCO

Jason Blum

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For the third year in a row, Harper for Kids was the charity partner of the Battle in the Bay Classic event, created by USF men's tennis head coach Peter Bartlett, assistant coach Pablo Pires de Almeida, and the California Tennis Club Director of Tennis Steve Jackson. On hand to help HFK put on its "Inch & Miles Sportsmanship Tennis Festival," were the USF men's coaches and their tennis team, HFK's coaches Marisa Stone, Craig Law, Lindsay Montero, Julian Cheng and special guest college coaches: Greg Patton (Boise State), Ryan Redondo (UOP) and Adam Steinberg (Pepperdine). HFK's Tim Harper spoke to the kids about the importance of the character traits from Coach Wooden's Pyramid of Success. Coach Bartlett gave the kids some insight into the strict code of conduct in tennis, while Coach Pires de Almeida emphasized the importance of having enthusiasm and to love what you do. Coach Patton encouraged the kids to try

and make at least one new friend whenever they play a tournament and Coach Steinberg reminded the kids that it's important to respect all of your opponents whether they are a stronger or a weaker player than yourself. Coach Redondo shared that he teaches his team not to be result oriented, but goal oriented.

NorCal USTA Junior Development had an excellent event at the Cal Club and San Francisco Tennis Club November 18-20. USPTA pros John Hubbell from the Pacific Athletic Club and Steve Jackson from the Cal Club participated, as well as other USPTA coaches. There was a lot of excellent coaching and tennis play by some of the best NorCal juniors ages 8-13.

Nigel O'Rourke at The Olympic Club hosted a Regional Futures Team Invitational on December 4, and will also host a second Play Day for 10 and unders on December 10.

Jason Blum, San Francisco Tennis Club Tennis professional and San Francisco NorCal USPTA Regional Director has recently been selected to the NorCal USPTA Board in an Advisory role focusing on Special Projects.



SANTA CRUZ-MONTEREY

Gay Finch

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Alan Tefler and his staff members Chelsey, David and Bill of the Monterey Tennis Center wish everyone a safe and peaceful holiday season. They will be having junior tennis camp from December 26 through January 6. It has been a good year for MTC with over three hundred juniors in various clinics and camps. The adult league teams did well and the Monterey High School girls' team made it to CCS playoffs.

Gay Finch attended the Fall Conference and enjoyed the seminars. Shannon Randolph gave an excellent seminar on mind, body and spirit, and Gay came away with a lot of great ideas. It was great to see a few Monterey Bay pros attending: Matt Morillo, Steve Proulx, Susan Reeder and Hans Römer. Matt, of Spanish Bay, took part as an actor in Mark Moran's seminar about teaching at a private club – a very clever and humorous presentation. Hans Römer is to be congratulated for his appointment to the NorCal USPTA board as Vice President. He had a grand opening at the Monterey Bay Racquet Club recently with Dick Gould attending. There was a fun doubles exhibition featuring pros Matt and Hans vs. Pebble Beach pros Kie

Foreman and Bill Quario. Gay fielded a Super Senior USTA team out of Rio Del Mar which won sectional competition and is going on to nationals in Arizona in April.

Andrea Barnes and Gay Finch will hold a women's retreat in 2012. The retreat is usually held in March, but might be moved to just prior to the World Conference which is being held at the Hyatt in Monterey in September.

The girls high school season is over with Carmel High, Stevenson School and Catalina ending up in a three-way tie in their league. St. Francis (Watsonville) freshman Caroline Casper, long time student of Judy Newman of La Madrona, played singles at the CCS championships at Courtside Tennis Club.

A group of members from the Beach & Tennis Club, including Head Pro Bill Quario and Kie Foreman, will be going to the Australian Open in January on a trip sponsored by legendary Stanford Coach Dick Gould. Other upcoming events at the club: the annual Team Tennis Mixer and the Century Cup Tournament. In the spring, Bill will help coach the Monterey High boys' team.

Please mark your calendars for the Division Convention at Stanford on February 17-19.



CONTRA COSTA

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Rancho Colorados is adding blended 60' and 36' lines to four courts this December to enhance the club's family image. "This has been a work in progress, getting the board and members behind it, and getting the grant from USTA and USTA NorCal," states Head Pro John Sharpe. A big thanks to Summer Verhoeven at USTA NorCal for all of her hard work in guiding Rancho through the grant process. On a personal note John states, "I go in for right shoulder surgery on December 1 to repair rotator cuff tears and bone spurs. Since July I have been playing and teaching left handed - great reminder on how beginners feel when they take up the game!

Marc Moran, Director of Tennis at ClubSport Pleasanton is fired up about his court resurfacing. He also has five new, permanent QuickStart courts. Josh Uran and Marc enjoyed attending the Fall Conference in Sacramento and found the attention and detail paid to 10 and under tennis to be invaluable. CSP has many events coming up including the Holiday Gift Exchange Mixer, a USTA NTRP tournament and some exciting club remodeling that will change the look of the entrance to the tennis courts. CSP finishes 2011 with the highest ever number of adult and junior lessons taught in a calendar year. The holiday camps are already booked and they are excited about the

after-school QuickStart match play program. Congratulations to Kevin McQuaid and his wife who recently had their first child.

Dale Miller, Regional Tennis Director for ClubSport Valley Vista, finds himself deep in the East Bay Junior League season. This is a partnership of private clubs: Sleepy Hollow, Moraga Country Club, Round Hill, CS Pleasanton and CS Valley Vista with year-round junior tennis leagues. About 100 kids participate and dynamic NTRP ratings are used. ClubSport Valley Vista had Quick Start lines painted on three of the courts over the Thanksgiving break. Director of Junior Tennis Andy Combs now oversees over 100 juniors in the club's Junior Tennis College.

Jim Coyne of Sleepy Hollow presented a seminar at Kris Milligan's Professional Development Day at Los Gatos High in October.

Brian Berry of Blackhawk Country Club reports that the 2011 Blackhawk Women's Tennis Association (BWTA) hosted a philanthropic project in October that benefitted the Richmond Youth Tennis Center. Over 350 pieces of tennis equipment were donated and over \$9,000 raised. RYTC is located at the Nicholl Park Tennis Courts in Richmond and targets underserved communities. Director Barbara Lewis runs after school and year-round tennis programs in a structured environment that opens doors in the lives of the kids, including opportunities for college scholarships.





SANTA CLARA - SAN BENITO

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In September, Al Juodikis and Ken DeHart attended the USPTA conference at the Saddlebrook Resort in Tampa, Fla. Al also attended the NorCal USPTA Fall Conference in Gold River in early November. There was a lot of emphasis on 10 and under tennis at these conferences. San Jose Swim and Racquet Club has been using the 10 and under format for several years with great success and parent support. The focus is on events where play lasts two to three hours and such events have recently taken place at Harbor Bay, Alpine Hills, Stanford, AVAC, Los Gatos Swim and Racquet Club and SJSRC.

The Red Ball Pay Day at SJSRC in October was a great success. Players were grouped into teams of five and each player played five 5-minute matches, reporting the number of points he/she won at the end of each match. Most notable was that no player waited for a match. They all played for three hours, the equivalent of three sets! Each player was awarded a medal, a certificate of participation and a copy of John Wooden's Pyramid of Success. Using a new chalk line system reduced the setup time considerably, allowing 12 courts to be configured in less than 90 minutes.

Kris Milligan hosted a workshop for pros and coaches at Lost Gatos High courtesy of USPTA pro Todd Dissly. Featured speakers included Mark Fairchilds, Lisa Duncan, Jim Coyne, Kris Milligan and demonstrations by TRX.

Courtside Club welcomes Aoife Wilson to the team. She has been a pro on the peninsula for quite a few years working primarily with Chris Bradley at Alpine Hills. With Eric Vescuso leaving to take on the tennis director job at the Tracy Racquet Club, there was an opening for another high energy professional! Courtside wishes Eric all the best and thanks him for his nine years of service. Courtside's three young guns, Aaron Klapper, Slavy Elenkov and Max Point have all been moved up to full time status. Courtside is fully embracing 10 and under tennis! They are ramping up the program and the USPTA team is excited about all the new players this program will attract.

Ridgemark Tennis Club hosted the Gilroy Tennis Club for a BBQ mixer on Dec 3. Could you hear the partying?

Jennifer Yoder teamed up with San Juan Bautista native Terese Lavingnano to get the two courts at the San Juan Bautista K-8 school resurfaced! The women gathered donations from the community, which were combined with school district matching funds. The ribbon cutting party on Dec. 4 was followed by a free kids clinic, adult clinic, and exhibition!



REDWOOD

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Shannon Noelle Smith hosted the Annual Coast Classic Doubles Tournament again this fall. This is an annual fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity on the Mendocino Coast. Players from the coastal and inland communities, including Fort Bragg, Mendocino, Gualala, Willits, Ukiah and Philo participated in this fun two-day event which raised over \$1,200. Shannon continues to teach lessons and clinics at the Redwood Health Club in Fort Bragg and now also teaches at the Little River Inn just south of

Mendocino. Our coastal tennis community is diverse and vibrant.

Siskiyou County's final tournament of the year, the Yreka Doubles, was held the first weekend in October. Yreka High junior Austin Kische teamed with Redding's Sun Oaks head pro, Jeremiah Walsh to win the Men's A's while Blair Loftus and Etna High coach, Shannon Loftus, won the Women's A's.

College of the Siskiyous tennis classes and the Yreka High girls' team completed their seasons in October ending, organized tennis in Siskiyou County for the year. Informal play at the Mount Shasta Resort and College of the Siskiyous will continue until snow once again overtakes the courts.





PENINSULA

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Happy Holidays Everyone,

The weather has been beautiful and on the Peninsula there has been lots of tennis action. Red Ball play days have taken place at Alpine Hills and SCRA and Stanford. It's great to have so many of the clubs and programs recognizing what a great thing 10 and under tennis is for our sport.

I attended Sunday of the Fall Conference in Sacramento. Mark Fairchilds (receive and send), Shannon Randolph (great tools), Monty Basnyat (yes, I'm using my ball machine), and the ever-energetic Greg Patton ("if you don't feel energetic just fake it") were on the agenda and were very informative and fun. There are always a few things that really resonate and that you can take back to your students.

Thanks to Andrea Barnes for heading things up (sorry to have missed the touchtennis tournament) to John Sharpe (thanks for the kind words) and Elaine Hennessy (we're lucky to have you) for making it happen. In attendance from the Mid-Peninsula were Nigel Pugh, Terry Roundtree, Bryden Yem, Todd Edwards, Mark Hanna, Sandy Badillo, Andy Harader (go Vikings!!), Scott Howard, Ron Lowe, Rod Saludo, and Derek Yuen.

We are planning a get together for our region in late March at Alpine Hills with a date yet to be determined. The emphasis will be on short court/mini tennis: red ball, orange ball, green dot, and maybe even a little yellow ball (see Doug, I pay attention) along with a touchtennis tourney of some sort. I'm sure a little food and of course some libation will be had by all.

I hope everyone has a great holiday season. I also hope to see many of you at the Convention in February. Let's gear up for making a **BIG showing for USPTA's Tennis Across America for 2012**. We came in second amongst USPTA divisions this year. Let's be first next year!

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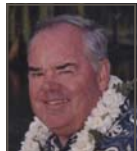
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CENTRAL VALLEY

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Winter cold and fog arrived in the valley along with rain for Thanksgiving. Most club professionals are getting ready for the Christmas rush.

Mark Weir, Director of Tennis at Del Rio Country Club, just finished a family style doubles tournament. Next up for Del Rio will be Christmas clinics and Friday Night Lights junior doubles and pizza. In December, Mark will be taking a group of juniors to Sacramento's Rio Del Oro Tennis Club for a junior exchange.

Don Purdy, Director of Tennis in Manteca at Modesto Parks & Recreation, will spend more time in Manteca during the winter. His player development program is moving along. He is in the process of introducing his students to tournament tennis.

Bob Chino, Director of Tennis at the Brookside Country Club in Stockton and Women's Tennis Coach for the University of Pacific, has had a busy fall. Bob's 10 and under tennis program has taken off at Brookside. The UOP women's tennis team will be composed of young and very good players in 2012. UOP has three new freshmen plus one more coming in January. In addition,

Kristine Ferrari has signed her letter of intent to play for Coach Chino at UOP in fall 2012.

Mark Fairchilds, Director of Tennis at the Brenda Athletic Clubs Modesto Sport, has also been very busy. When asked about his busy schedule he still says, "It's what I do." The junior exchange with Courtside has been rescheduled to December because of rain. As I write this article, Mark just finished his annual Turkey Shoot Social. Unfortunately, Brian Heiser's Cornish Game Hen Shoot for juniors was canceled due to rain.

Central Valley pros who attended the Fall conference were Bill Weber, Don Purdy, Mark Fairchilds and Steve Tiffin. Steve Tiffin, Director of Tennis at the Woodbridge Country Club, reports that he picked up some great clue words to use in his teaching from the Fall Conference seminars.

Bill Weber has been busy teaching and being certified in two areas by the USTA. Bill is now a certified USTA school trainer and will be responsible for bringing tennis into the classroom. In the spring, he will teach the school teachers how to teach tennis during their P.E. activity time. Secondly, Bill is on the USTA NorCal Player Development Coaches Commission and he is also on the High Performance Committee for 10 and Under Tennis! Go Bill!



FRESNO

Sandy Gostanian
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Thanks to the NorCal Board of Directors for presenting a fun and educational Fall Conference. Thanks, too, to Spare Time for hosting the event at their facility.

The cold weather has come in with a fury, but that's not slowing down the professionals in our area.

Copper River Country Club is continuing work on court resurfacing and making sure that programs are still running smoothly. 2011 Singles and Doubles Club Championships will be starting soon and plans are being made for the annual trip to Aptos for the USTA Challenger Tournament.

Sierra Sport and Racquet Club is keeping busy with youth

and adult clinics and preparing for some fun events to celebrate the holidays.

Please remember to gather evidence of your activities during the past year and nominate yourself or another deserving pro for the 2011 USPTA NorCal Awards. Nominations information can be found on our website or simply send me an email: hyeslk@att.net. Deadline for submitting information is quickly approaching. When nominating someone, please make sure to provide me with their name, email address and phone number.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone.





TAHOE-RENO

Christy Funk

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Fall and winter is upon us and making tennis challenging. As usual, one day we get sprinkled with snow and the next day is beautiful and in the mid-60s. Welcome to the high mountains.

USPTA Pro Jeff Day was inducted into the Reno-Tahoe Tennis Hall of Fame for his volunteering efforts in the Carson City area. The Biggest Little Tennis Association (BLTA) sponsored the Hall of Fame Gala in November

where \$6,500 was raised to be used for programs to grow the game at area high schools and middle schools in 2012. This past fall the BLTA worked with one of the at-risk-schools in the area to help the kids learn basics and develop their games to play on high school tennis teams.

The BLTA has partnered up with Lakeridge Tennis Club to put on a USTA QuickStart coaches clinic for a date to be determined in January. BLTA is working with the Andres Durandegui at the Reno Tennis Center to develop a few free clinics over the spring to jumpstart youth tennis. Currently, the BLTA has nine satellite tournaments signed up for 2012 and the schedule will be listed in January at www.blta.org.



MARIN-SONOMA

Audra Silman

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Lisa Berg and Laurent Lecelier of Rafael Racquet Club held another successful Annual Hal Wagner Memorial Doubles Tournament. The final open event in the Marin Grand Prix series had over 250 entrants! Many of our local pros took home Open trophies including: David Crouzet, Jenno Morson, Tarrin Dougery, Shibu Lal, Carrie Zarraonandia and more!

Mt. Tam's 3rd annual Men's Open showcased the strongest Open competition in NorCal. Steve Summer and Shibu Lal presented the \$4,000 prize check to Rudy Siwy, who was one of many competitors who have experience playing on the pro circuit! Many of our own local pros participated in the top notch event, including: Summer, Lal, Mike Downs, Polo Cowan, David Johnson and David Sylesh.

Scott Potthast brought a USTA Pro circuit event to Marin with the \$100,000 First Republic Bank Tiburon Challenger. Ivo Karlovic took home the singles title in a thrilling battle against North Bay native Sam Querrey 6-7 (2), 6-1, 6-4. World class competitors were attracted this year by more ATP points and prize money. The Challenger

has grown every year and is now viewed as the USTA's lead up to the Australian Open! Querrey was also spotted at the Esurance Tennis Classic at Harbor Point where he replaced an injured John McEnroe. Aleco Prevolos umpired his club's weekend long event. The Classic gave us an up close and personal experience with tennis greats such as the Bryan Brothers, Tracy Austin and others for the benefit of local charities including the YTA.

Many thanks to all the pros who work hard all year to ensure these tournaments happen. The high level of play seemed to inspire the high school girls around the North Bay. Congrats to three teams: Branson, Marin Academy, and Tam High who all won NCS titles, and special kudos to The Branson School girls and coach Jenno Morson who won NCS for the first time ever! Marin Academy is coached by Geoff Martinez, who was selected to the U.S. national team for the ITF's Senior Championships in San Diego next February. Martinez will compete in the Men's 55 division in the tournament that features an estimated 1,000 competitors from 25 different countries!

David Johnson will host a Kid's Play Day at Bay Club Ross Valley on January 14 from 12-3. All 10 and unders are invited to participate in the fun! Johnson also runs indoor 10 and under tennis at Bay Club Marin so our youth can still play during the rainy season!

Changing your email address? The USPTA World Headquarters and USPTA NorCal want to communicate better with you and keep you informed of all the current news and member benefits. Please keep your e-mail address up-to-date with Kathy Buchanan at USPTA World Headquarters: membership@uspta.org. Your email will remain confidential and only be used for USPTA business. USPTA never releases members' e-mail addresses to outside parties.



ALAMEDA

Wendell Pierce

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The push for 10 and under tennis is serving as a catalyst for many clubs to add a few new lines to their courts. The Berkeley Tennis Club recently resurfaced two courts and added lines for the shorter courts. Berkeley Tennis Club Head Pro Lynne Rolley will use the courts for a 10 and under event at BTC, which will take place in conjunction with the Pacific Coast Senior and Family Tennis Tournament in May 2012. BTC Activities Director/ Assistant Pro Alexander Winslow has added twice monthly Round Robin Mixers to the clubs list of activities. BTC is currently planning its annual Christmas Party.

Speaking of Christmas parties, Chabot Canyon Racquet Club manager and pro Steve Squire has scheduled the club's Christmas party the second week in December. He has requested any memorabilia that club members may have such as photos, books, newsletters, unpaid club accounts and such, to give a look at days gone by.

Chabot Canyon Head Pro Wendell Pierce (that's me) ends the USTA/NorCal Men's 55's season in third place (in points) and won two tournaments. Congratulations to Anne Lowry for her Silver Ball performance in the Women's 50's National Clay Courts. Anne has had a resurgence into tournament competition. I recently had the pleasure of seeing Dan Leone, Assistant Pro at ClubSport Fremont, back on the court after having a fall that caused multiple breaks to his left leg. He was in a wheelchair and was unable to work for a year. Nice to have you back on the courts, Dan!

Harbor Bay has truly embraced the USTA 10 and under initiative. The club has eight 36-foot and 60-foot courts. Harbor Bay Director of Tennis Paul Torricelli will be starting a 10 and under after school program.

I'm going to Aussie Open in January with Peter Benko of Berkeley. Peter and I will be attending an Australian tennis conference in Melbourne, at the site of the Open, three days prior to the tournament (hope the weather is good, Down Under). We'll have a few brews while thinking of our fellow USPTA members, teaching in the cold.

Happy holidays and good teaching!



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Noteworthy from National...



Competitive Player Development Conference-Florida, January

The United States Professional Tennis Association Competitive Player Development Conference will take place at Club Med Sandpiper Bay, Fla., from January 20-22, 2012. The conference will allow attendees to learn the Spanish method for developing players.

Featured speakers for the conference include Emilio Sanchez Vicario, Luis Mediero and Gabe Jaramillo. Sanchez Vicario, who is a USPTA Master Professional, is the former captain of the 2008 championship Davis Cup team for Spain and a former tour player ranked No. 7 in singles and No. 1 in doubles. He was also captain of Spain's Olympic gold medal team in 2008. The Sanchez family is also well known for Emilio's sister, Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, who won four Grand Slam singles titles, six Grand Slam women's doubles titles, and four Grand Slam mixed doubles titles.

Early registration for the conference is \$300 for USPTA members and includes all materials. The deadline for early registration is December 31. The conference will be presented in English. More information about the conference, including a detailed agenda, is available online at www.uspta.com.



Motevassel Finalist in USPTA International Championships

Northern California's own Oren Motevassel (Sunnyvale) made it to the finals in the open division at the USPTA International Championships in September at the Saddlebrook Resort in Wesley Chapel, Fla.

Adrian Zguns of Orlando, Fla., won the men's open title defeating Motevassel 6-3, 6-2. The championships are open only to USPTA-certified tennis professionals and were played as part of the USPTA's World Conference on Tennis. Way to represent, Oren!

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Fall Conference Recap

Andrea Barnes, Regional Vice President and Fall Conference Coordinator

Seventy NorCal pros took some time out of their busy fall schedules to gather at Gold River's Spare Time Indoor Tennis Center for our annual USPTA NorCal Fall Conference. Most were drawn to the great line-up of speakers: Mark Fairchilds, speaking on teaching athletic skills, Michael Jessup on balance and rhythm, the inimitable Greg Patton on a "heightened state of practice" and competitive doubles patterns, Paul Allam and Nigel Pugh on 10 and under tennis, Shannon Randolph on incorporating mind, body, and spirit to be your best, Monty Basnyat on saving your body to prolong your career, and last, and very certainly not least, Marc Moran, with his Oscar-worthy supporting cast of Josh Uran, Sam Levy, and Matt Morillo, presenting "It Happened on Baseline Street," Marc's unique look at coping with customer service challenges!

Saturday's events at the tennis center ended with a well-attended, low key "touchtennis" event. This British import is a fun short court sport played with 21-inch rackets and foam balls. I don't think we're ready to take on the professionals, (yes, there are professional touchtennis events in Britain – see their website at touchtennis.com) but a number of NorCal pros showed nimble feet, deft racket handling and a fierce competitive spirit. Who says we're all over the hill?

The big winner at Saturday night's SAP-sponsored cocktail party at the Shepherder Bar and Grille was Bill Weber, who won a free, two-night stay, including green fees at the upscale Corde Valle Resort. As usual, the SAP Open's Pete Windham and Zach Plaza raffled off a variety of autographed items for attendees. The fine food and drink and great company made for a fun opportunity to see one another away from the court.

Many thanks are due to the folks at Spare Time, Isabella Kling, the facility manager, and Marty Rothfels, tennis director at the Gold River Racquet Club, who assisted in all sorts of unseen ways, AND showed he could still bring it on the court during several presentations.

I think all of us would agree that the 2011 Fall Conference met all of Shannon Randolph's mind, body, and spirit fueling goals. If you weren't there be sure to join us at the Winter Convention at Stanford—your next opportunity to learn, enjoy and engage.

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Welcome New NorCal Members!

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PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



NorCal Pros,

Many of you know that I have moved to Texas but some don't, so I thought I would write a "farewell" letter. The economy put my family in a position to consider a change and when an opportunity came up with my "day" job we decided to embark on a new adventure. Moving to Texas has been wonderful from a financial perspective but hard from a personal one. One thing that has really helped me has been the Texas USPTA pros whom I have met over the years. A number of them have gone out of their way to welcome me much like the NorCal USPTA pros did when I first joined. I already have a number of new friends because of this. I can't tell you what this has meant to me on a personal level.

The Texas conference folks have reached out to me to ask how the heck NorCal can get the type of speakers that we do. I gave credit to the NorCal board as well as members like Dick Gould, Rich Andrews, and the local pros who have all gone out of their way to help. We also have special relationships with USTA NorCal, The SAP Open and The Bank of the West Classic. All NorCal pros should understand what a unique situation this is and what fantastic opportunities you have to learn from the very best.

Some of the local directors have already asked me about being a substitute and I probably will be in the near future. I am missing being out there on the courts but my day job has placed more demands on me so this has become a bit tougher to do.

My day job deals with sending video over the Internet to PCs and mobile devices (smart phones and tablets). I was at work last week and I wanted to show some of our employees how our product is being used so clicked on the website of McKinney, a nearby city. Just by accident (or was it?) I happened to see they were building a new tennis facility and guess who was chosen to manage it? Lifetime Tennis! I sent an email to Dana Gill and we both agreed it really is a small world!

I can go on and on but I will wrap it up by saying that I will stay involved with tennis. This is not a farewell to my NorCal friends but rather "until we meet again."

Best wishes to you all,

Mike Belli