

THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club

April, 2020



Jim Utz

1/31/32 - 3/20/20

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

P.O. Box 4574 • Walnut Creek, CA 94596
(925) 945-0105 • www.wcrc.net



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WCRC Leagues Gift Coordinator	Priyanka Holmes - 609-647-3326 priyanka.holmes@gmail.com
Social Media Coordinator	Garvin Tom - 209-969-5445 gtom12@hotmail.com

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy April!



Sally Krapf
2020 WCRC President

It seems like so long ago since we've been on the tennis courts. As we've all been sheltering at home and safely distancing ourselves from each other I find myself looking deeper

into many issues that used to not seem very important now seem critical to our existence.

I feel somehow that this virus was meant to give us a reset. We were spending so much time pointing fingers, trying to find blame and basically not uniting together as a "family". This virus has no boundaries, it doesn't care how much money you make, what color your skin is, your religious beliefs, who you love, it affects EVERY single one of us on this PLANET.

This is our time to shine, to put away any judgements and look deeper into ourselves and find peace within as well as with those around us.

We are all in this together, be considerate, compassionate, understanding, loving and forgiving.

Most of all please be safe and make smart choices when you have to leave the safety of your home.

Together we will get through this!

Sally Krapf

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to Our **21** New Members
Current Membership: **1234**

Hilary Anderson	Concord	4.0	Ryan Lehmer	Walnut Creek	4.0
Terry Camp	Walnut Creek	4.0	Joan Leone	Danville	3.0
Robert Canchola	Concord	4.0	Keith McKeown	San Ramon	3.0
Crawford Carpenter	Danville	3.5	Vicky McKeown	San Ramon	3.0
Debbie Fuggetta	Danville	3.0	David Ramm	Lafayette	3.5
Aliza Grosh	Danville	3.0	Lisa Rasband	Danville	3.0
Allison Hickenbotham	Danville	3.0	Subhro Roy	Walnut Creek	N.A.
Tracey Hull	Danville	3.0	Shashanna Singh	Danville	3.0
Doak Jones	Danville	4.0	Lindsay Wilson	Pleasant Hill	3.5
Anthony Kelly	Napa	3.0	Bradley Wood	Walnut Creek	3.5
Anissa Lee	Alamo	3.0			



Membership questions contact:
Pam Maloney at 925-787-3970 or
email at: pam4tenis@gmail.com



Lifetime Activities A Message from Lifetime Activities

Dear Walnut Creek Racquet Club Members,

During these unsettling and unprecedented times, the safety and well-being of our patrons and team members are of utmost importance. In line with the county and state-wide lock-down currently in place, the Walnut Creek Tennis Center as well as satellite courts in the City of Walnut Creek will be closed to the general public until further notice. All programs, lessons, and court reservations have been cancelled. The pro-shop will also be closed at this time. Retail services including stringing will be unavailable until we reopen. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

For those of you who have a court usage pass or ball machine pass – these will be put on indefinite hold effective March 16th, 2020, and will be reactivated automatically once the facility reopens. This means that you will not lose any time on your pass while the WCTC is closed.

For those enrolled in Spring Session I classes or Spring Break Camps, you have been issued a credit to your Lifetime Activities account along with a \$20 loyalty credit. If you would like to pursue a refund for programs, please email us at walnutcreek@lifetimeactivities.com.

We recognize that this is a challenging time for all. We remain deeply committed to the health and safety of patrons, team members, and community.

Let's continue to take care of ourselves and each other.

For any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email at isabellaf@lifetimeactivities.com

We look forward to seeing you all again soon.

Warm Regards,

Isabella

Isabella Feinberg

General Manager



Member Spotlight

Myrl Kan

What's On Your Bucket List? How about Riding an Iceland Pony?

Interview and article by Lynne Weinschelbaum.

As an effort to get to know our membership the Board has decided to start a new monthly column "Member Spotlight". We will be interviewing WCRC members and getting to know them. This article will help us find out how they got introduced to tennis, their background, any favorite memories, etc. We hope you enjoy this new commentary.



We'll pick up the Iceland pony and holding a Koala a little later. Let's go back to the beginning - Myrl Kan was born in San Francisco and lived above Chinatown until she was 10 years old. Her family then moved to Indio where she spent her formative years. Myrl attended UC Berkeley (Go Bears!) for one year before getting married. After graduating from dental school her husband joined the Air Force medical corps as a dentist. They were stationed in Guam for 2 years before returning to Oakland. Her husband set up a dental practice in Walnut Creek and they eventually moved there and had two boys.

Myrl eventually found her way to Heather Farm where she took beginner classes. In the late 60's Dorothy Butler organized Ladies Day which anyone could join as long as they brought one ball and were able to hit the ball over the net. She also joined a BALL team

and played against local clubs. However, Myrl took a hiatus from tennis when she went to work. She worked at Moore Business Forms, Wells Fargo and Cal State Hayward.

Tennis finally came back into the picture in the 90's when Myrl began playing league tennis. She captained her first team (3.0 USTA) in 2003. Unbelievably Myrl has been captaining at least one team every year since then and I know her team players love her for her devotion and support. In 2009 she captained a 2.5 team of complete beginners who didn't know how to server, score or play a tie break. Much to her surprise and delight the team made it to Sectionals! In 2012 Myrl captained a senior 3.5 team that went to Nationals which were held at Indian Wells (they came in second). She was also on two 3.0 teams that went to Nationals.

Love and tennis game improvement came to Myrl in the form of Leonard Young. In 1996 she met Leonard through Tennis Match Makers (what a terrific idea!) which organized mixed doubles matches that were played on local high school courts. Myrl got to know Leonard even better when he, at the last minute, joined a 60 mile Avon hike with her. The hike was over 3 days and Leonard didn't even have a toothbrush with him. Leonard has not only helped Myrl with her game but has been there to help coach all of her teams.

Some things that might surprise you about Myrl, the most interesting being the day she spent at the Bondurant school of highway performance driving where she learned, among other things, to do a 180! She has also done hikes at Yosemite Half Dome, Crater Lake, Yellowstone – Tetons, Mesa Verde - Yute reservation, Bryce – Zion and Machu Pichu.

And now for the other travels and bucket list:

China, Taiwan, Japan, Philippines, France, England, Peru, Norway and New Zealand.

Canada - bucket list Calgary Stampede. Tanzania – bucket list safari. Australia - bucket list Australian Open and holding a koala. Iceland - bucket list ride the Iceland pony. Alaska - bucket list helicopter to a glacier and go to a dog sled camp with 100 dogs - ride the sled.

That's a lot Myrl but we are all happy that you also have time to captain teams out of Heather Farm. Keep going girl!

Friends of Pleasant Hill Tennis Club

If you love playing tennis and have ever walked onto the courts of Pleasant Hill Middle School, or have ever played under the lights at College Park, you owe a lot to the late Jim Utz.

Jim, also known at times to recipients of this weekly e-mail message as The Shadow (a reference to an old-time radio mystery character), was an amazing soft-spoken man with a great gift for getting people to participate in doing good things--including preserving and improving the tennis courts in Pleasant Hill.

Jim, born January 31, 1932, passed away on Friday, March 20th, survived by Rita, his wife of 65 years, Rita-- another longtime PHTC and community volunteer. He was a retired teacher in the Mt. Diablo School District, and an Emeritus member of the Board of Directors of the Pleasant Hill Community Foundation.



Jim loved tennis and was one of the earliest members of the Pleasant Hill Tennis Club. One of Jim's great gifts to PHTC was his amazing soft spoken ability to inspire people to make Pleasant Hill a great place to live--and a great place to play tennis. As the almost in perpetuity "Community Liaison" member of the PHTC Board of Directors, he was our ambassador to anybody and everybody: The Pleasant Hill Recreation and Parks District staff and board members, local school district staff members at all levels, leaders of other local recreation organization, his many friends elsewhere in the Bay Area tennis community. Whenever we needed the help of others, Jim was our guy.

The Racquetteer remembers his first meeting with Jim. While hitting tennis balls at DVC one afternoon about 20 years ago, I saw someone putting up photocopied notices that said "Let There Be Lights". That was Jim Utz beginning the campaign that would eventually fund the lights at College Park High School. When I heard the \$\$ amount required for the project, I thought he was a dreamer. And perhaps he was, but it wasn't long before he brought together the people and organizations that were needed to make it happen.

From PHTC frequent Board member, Kelly Williams: Jim was a beloved friend to many, many people. As one of the original founders of our tennis club, he gave so much of his time and energy to the club as well as other parts of the community such as College Park tennis club scholarships, CP lights, resurfacing of our courts and then the Big Fix of our courts procuring a generous donation from Bob Kaliski and many others. He worked tirelessly on all these projects and had a wealth of knowledge on who to talk to, how to proceed and where to start. Jim was a dear friend to my heart. I loved him so very much and he always gave a smile and a hug no matter how bad he was feeling as he struggled health wise. I will miss him so very much. Please all say a little prayer for Rita to have the strength during this difficult time. We will remember you, Jim, forever and ever. --Kel.

From PHTC President David Wax: I first met Jim in 2013, when I first became a PHTC member. As Jim entered his 80s, rather than slow his pace he continued to be an extremely active and energetic PHTC member. Of course, his greatest achievement on behalf of the Club was his perseverance, aggressiveness and ingenuity in fundraising the huge amount of \$250,000 for a successful renovation of the six tennis courts. He was not done there and he continued to be an extremely valuable member of the PHTC Board. He was one of the Club's Founding Fathers. He was our resident historian who would regularly remind us of some tasks we would have neglected. About three years ago, he worked diligently in developing an innovative tennis program for our youth. He utilized the skills of our Club Pro, Monica Hiramoto-Ruiz to offer an After School Tennis Program at PHMS. It soon expanded to include two other middle schools in the Mt. Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD). The program became an instant success in helping to foster an interest and love for the sport of tennis. The program is offered during Spring and Fall.

Longtime PHTC leader Larry McEwen recalls: I remember the days of trying to dredge up cash for our new courts. In our meetings I was always on his case to "Think Big" and ask for a lot more \$. Well, when all was said and done and the grant requests went out and came back, I ended up with zilch while he brought in a couple of hundred thousand dollars. He worked tirelessly, patiently cajoling Rec and Park and the Mt. Diablo School District to overcome the multitude of bureaucratic objections to what we were eventually able to accomplish.

Many times PHTC president and leader Tommy Butler remembers: Many years ago, when I first attended a PHTC Mixer, Jim took me aside afterwards and had a hit-around with me for 15 minutes to evaluate my game. I had been away from tennis for 25 or so years, so I needed and appreciated this input. We did a bit of work together on the Lights campaign. He led, I followed. Tommy

--The Racquetteer

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CALENDER OF EVENTS

2020

Apr

ALL Tennis Events On Hold until at Least May 3rd

Apr 2-5	USTA 55+ Mixed Playoffs
Apr 5	USTA 40+ Season Closes
Apr 6	USTA 18+ Season Opens
Apr 10-12	USTA 55+ Sectional Nationals
Apr 13	USTA 55+ Team Registration Opens
Apr 13	USTA 18+ Mixed Team Registration Opens
Apr 16	USTA 40+ Playoffs Round 1
Apr 17	WCRC Winter Doubles League Opens
Apr 23-26	USTA 40+ Playoffs Round 2

May

May 1-3	USTA 40+ Districts
May 8	USTA 65+ Season Closes
May 8	WCRC Calcutta Auction
May 9	WCRC Calcutta Tournament
May 22	WCRC Winter Doubles Season Closes
May 15-17	USTA 40+ Sectionals
May 18	USTA 55+ Team Registration Closes
May 18	USTA 18+ Mixed Team Registration Closes
May 18-22	USTA 65+ Playoffs
May 29-31	WCRC Winter Doubles Tournament

Jun

Jun 8	USTA 55+ Season Opens
Jun 15-17	USTA 65+ Sectional Championships
Jun 20	WCRC Alzheimer Tournament
Jun 28	USTA 18+ Season Closes
Jun 29	USTA 18+ Mixed Season Opens

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cara Mia Barnacascel
as of February, 2020



Walnut Creek Racquet Club Profit and Loss

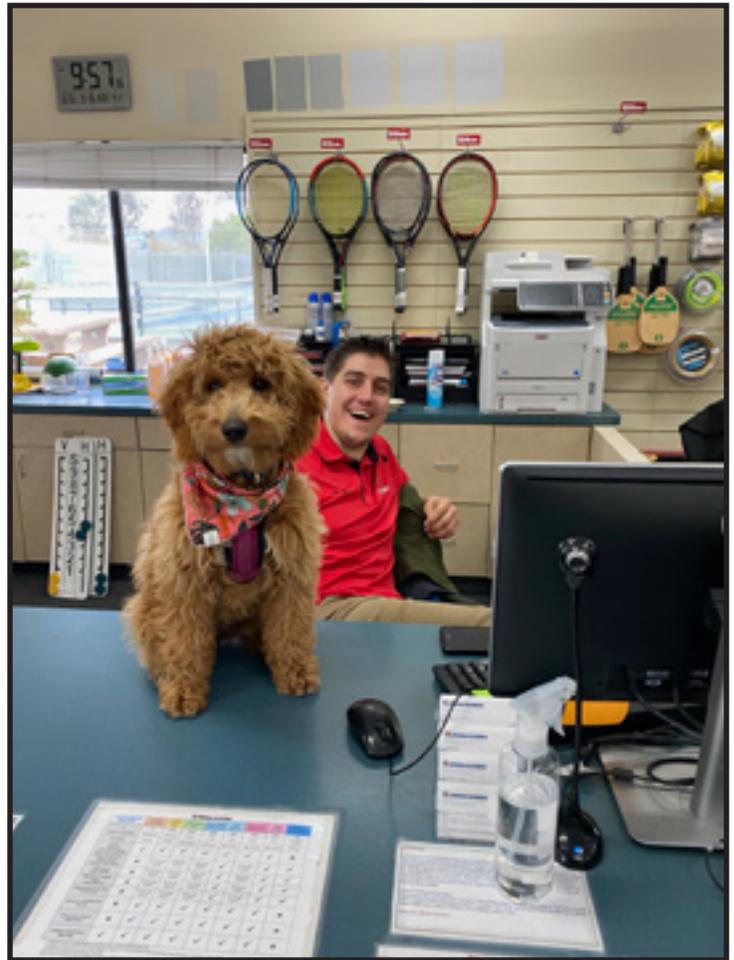
January 1 - February 28, 2020

	Total
Income	
League Dues	0.00
Winter Doubles League	867.90
Total League Dues	\$867.90
Membership Dues	1,904.34
Total Income	\$2,772.24
Gross Profit	\$2,772.24
Expenses	
Board Meeting	68.38
District Fees	270.00
Gifts	67.14
League Expenses	0.00
Fall Mixed League Expenses	1,164.27
Summer Singles Expenses	682.75
Total League Expenses	\$1,847.02
Website	129.85
Total Expenses	\$2,382.39
Net Operating Income	\$389.85
Net Income	\$389.85

Balance as of February, 2020 \$49,298.66

There's a new boss in town...

Newest employee and non-Covid 19 carrier, Savannah Feinberg takes charge with Laith Kadourhe at the Lifetime club house.



Do you have a favorite photo you'd like to see in an upcoming newsletter? Send any photos or articles to tammie4tennis@gmail.com

Winter Doubles League - Standings

Men's

	W	L
3.0 No matches played		
3.5 Tseng/Lee	2	0
4.0 Tabtab/Spencer	2	0
Schaffer/Baldocchi	2	0
Nguyen/Ton that	2	0
Maier/Francis	2	0
4.5 No matches played		

Women's

	W	L
3.0 Hornbrook/Troncoso	1	0
3.5 Pruden/Krapf	4	0
4.0 Himenez/Van Slyke	2	0
4.5/5.0 No teams rostered		