

THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club

November 2025



Annette DiAntonio shows off her moves while dressing up for Halloween for Monday night practice.



Dan Kaplan

PHOTOGRAPHY

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

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THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy November

Hi everyone!

So, for all you doubles players out there, what side do you prefer to return from? Ad side? Deuce side? Do you have a preference or even care at all? Or are you one of those who almost always return from a certain side?

If you answered "yes" to that last question: why? Do you feel like you play much better from that side or are you just simply more comfortable

from there? It amazes me how there are players out there who are still adamant about returning from a certain side. I'm not talking about those who have only been playing for a few years. They're still learning the game and getting comfortable, so it's understandable. I'm talking about those who have been playing for 5+ years. And I'm not talking about simply having a preference, either. I'm sure just about everyone has a preference, including me. It's just human nature. I'm talking about those who are stubborn about returning from the "other side".

Do you know that only returning from one side is limiting your opportunities? You can only be paired up with certain partners because you're limited to one side, for instance. Also, returning from one side limits what you can do on the court. Switching sides with your partner after losing the first set can be an effective strategy to change it up or give a different look, and I do it from time to time, and it often works. These days I'll also pick a side to start based on the situation or strategy, and not my preference.

So when you go out to practice, do you also just return from your preferred side? If yes, why? Practice is there so you can work on things that are uncomfortable to you or are more difficult to you, including returning from the "other side". So I suggest to everyone that when you practice, practice returning from both sides. I assure you that you'll be comfortable playing from both sides eventually, even if doesn't seem that way at first.

One more thing: last week I witnessed two USTA matches where a team had to default a line because a player didn't show up. Either they got the date wrong or just simply forgot. This sucks for everyone involved: captains, teammates, and especially the other players who show up to play the defaulted line. Do yourself and everyone else involved a favor and set reminders for yourself. I download my teams' schedules from the USTA Norcal website and onto my calendar, and whenever I'm put into the lineup, I give myself an alert 24 hours in advance. I've played over 700 USTA matches and haven't missed one yet, so something must be working.

See you on the courts!

Garvin Tom



Garvin Tom
2025 WCRC President

M EMBERSHIP

Welcome to Our **5** New Members
Current Membership: **1,156**

Sheena Dugao	San Ramon	2.5
Megan Hardin	Walnut Creek	3.5
Ian Maddison	Walnut Creek	4.0
Ansh Pradhan	Pleasant Hill	5.5
Ernest Schulze	Walnut Creek	4.0



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



NEW MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE

Each month a random draw will pick a WCRC member's name to receive free WCRC membership for a year!

This month's winner is:

Debashis Panda



An End of an Era!

Long time WCRC member and Legacy Captain Myrl Kan hung up her coaching shoes in May. She captained 84 teams, co-captained 10 teams and between the two brought 21 teams to playoffs.



The Walnut Creek Racquet Club board presented her with a gift card for Bridges Restaurant and Bar in Danville as well as a "Legacy Captain" jacket which she really loved.

We will miss seeing Myrl out on the courts captaining her beloved players down at Heather Farm. We wish you nothing but the very best in your next adventure Myrl!



Coming Over to the Light Side of the Force:

Scott Judy and Clark Walmer

Interview and article by Ian McLaughlin

Close friends and WCRC members Scott Judy and Clark Walmer are jointly the subjects of this month's "member spotlight" article because their paths to Heather Farm are inextricably intertwined. In fact, the duo are such close friends and frequent doubles partners that Scott jokingly refers to Clark as his "tennis wife." (to which Clark good naturedly retorts, "I do have better looking legs than Scott.")

Both men were living in Brentwood and playing at Diamond Hills when they met over a decade ago. Scott was captaining a USTA team there and Clark was referred to him as a potential team member. During their initial meeting, Scott recalls Clark showing up in a neon track suit. But they quickly realized that they shared a similar outlook on tennis, both being competitive and wanting to win, but also maintaining proper perspective and mainly wanting to have fun on the court. The two also realized that they share a common perspective on life as well, as both men are humble and love a hearty laugh, and they have been good friends ever since Clark initially joined Scott's 4.0 team at Diamond Hills in 2014. Scott tends to give Clark a hard time on the court, but Clark takes it in stride because he knows that Scott has high expectations for himself and is harder on himself than on anyone else.



All players who compete in USTA leagues at Heather Farm are intimately familiar with the club at Diamond Hills in Brentwood, which consistently fields strong teams at every level and is one of WCRC's strongest competitors in the NorCal region, both during the regular season as well as in postseason matches, when either club routinely must vanquish the other if they want to advance deeper into postseason play. That recognition and respect is mutual, and Scott and Clark were equally familiar with Walnut Creek as a frequent and formidable opponent when they played at Diamond Hills. The duo says that WCRC was the one team that Diamond Hills really hated losing to, in fact. But after competing fiercely on the court, Scott and Clark both also recognized the high character of the individuals who play for Walnut Creek teams and often they would share a post match beer with their cross-county opponents regardless who won on the court that day. So the camaraderie that is a hallmark of WCRC is evident even to some of its fiercest rivals, and Scott and Clark recognized and respected that camaraderie from their viewpoint on the other side of the net.

Eventually the WCRC camaraderie that Scott and Clark respected while they were opponents drew them over to

the light side of the force. Clark was working in San Francisco as an IT manager at Cisco while living in Brentwood, and the commute was such a bear that he would often drive to Walnut Creek so that he could take BART into the city for work, and when he returned at the end of the day, he began stopping in at Heather Farm to play some tennis while waiting for the commute traffic back out to Brentwood to die down, since he had already developed relationships with several club members from competing against them while he played for Diamond Hills. Around the same time Scott was in the process of moving back to Alamo where he grew up, and coincidentally he ended up living back in the same house that has been in his family for fifty years, which is also closer to his job in Oakland as CFO for a fire sprinkler company Allied Fire Protection. Since he was also now back in the central county area and remained close friends with Clark, Scott naturally migrated his tennis game over to Heather Farm as well. Clark still lives in Brentwood but now works at the Apple store in Broadway Plaza in Walnut Creek so it's a shorter commute and easier for Clark to play regularly at Heather Farm, which is now his tennis home. Clark is also considering a midlife career change to go back to school and get a teaching credential to teach math, which is his true calling.



Both men are now fixtures at Heather Farm and compete regularly in USTA leagues at the 4.0 level through WCRC, mainly on teams captained by Tammie Snyder, Kevin Kyono, and Sean Barnacascel back when he was captaining more frequently,

Despite jokingly referring to each other as tennis spouses, both men are blessed with real families in the area as well. Scott and his wife Lori, who he coincidentally met at Heather Farm at a wedding reception thirty years ago, have been married for twenty-seven years and have three children who remain close enough to see regularly. They are almost empty nesters because their youngest child is in college, stays with Scott and Lori part time, and happens to be the only one of their three children who has taken up the game of tennis. Clark and his wife of twenty-six years, Jill, have a son who works in the wine industry in Modesto who they also see often. Scott and Clark obviously spend a lot of time playing tennis together, but they're equally close friends off the court and hang out often, doing things close friends do like competing in the same fantasy football league.



Since no man is an island, Scott and Clark's friendship helped Clark navigate some rough waters when he was diagnosed with cancer several years ago in a cruel and unexpected blow from the fates. Clark suddenly was facing his most formidable opponent, non Hodgkin's B cell lymphoma. Clark battled his cancer as fiercely as he

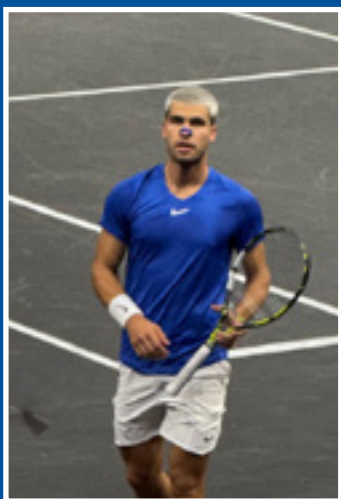
Scott Judy and Clark Walmer continued...

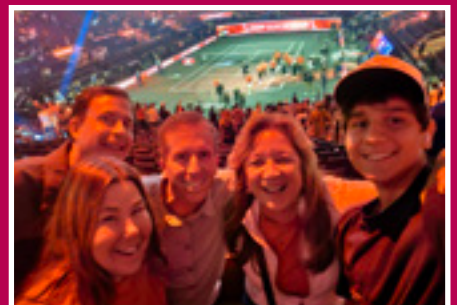
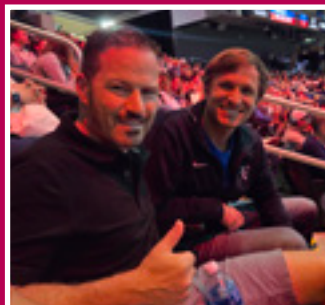
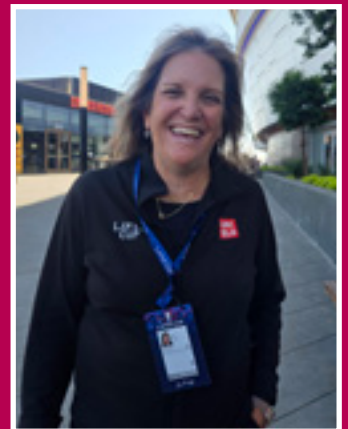
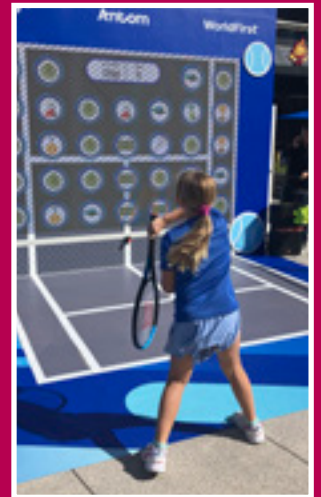
competes on the tennis court and pursued a relatively aggressive course of treatment that required six rounds of chemotherapy every three weeks. Thankfully, his treatment protocol was successful, Clark's cancer is currently in remission, and his doctors do not expect it to return after Clark completed his chemotherapy treatments in January 2024.

The completion of Clark's chemotherapy treatments also led to one of the most moving stories this reporter has heard in six years of drafting the "member spotlight" series, when Clark and Scott returned to the court together for their first match after Clark's cancer treatments. It was a home match at Heather Farm in early 2024 against a difficult opponent, the team from Round Hill. Although both men were eager to play a match together again after several years, they debated whether they should compete against Round Hill that day in an USTA league match against such a tough opponent, but competitors that they are they decided to go for it. They ended up competing on Court 4, the showcase court at Heather Farm, in a match filled with emotion and drama due to the unusual circumstances. In fact, Jill came out to watch the match, which she doesn't often do. The duo reports that they started off horribly, but just coincidentally, when Jill had to leave partway through the match they turned things around and ended up victorious. After the final shot the close friends hugged tightly and Scott says that Clark's chemotherapy-ravaged body was just limp because he had given everything he had on the court during the match. Surely no one who was there that day will ever forget such an emotional and moving scene that illustrates the camaraderie and joy that the game of tennis engenders.

That camaraderie is such an important part of the culture of WCRC that it was evident to good friends/tennis spouses Scott Judy and Clark Walmer even when they played for one of our club's toughest competitors, and it is so powerful that it drew the duo over to the light side of the force. Because who doesn't secretly want to be a Jedi warrior? ▲





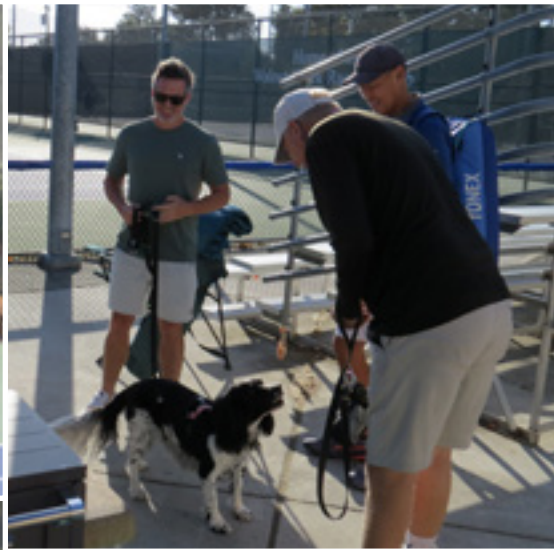




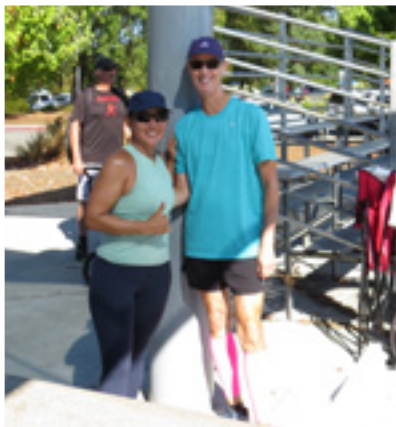


2025 Fall Mixed Doubles Tournament

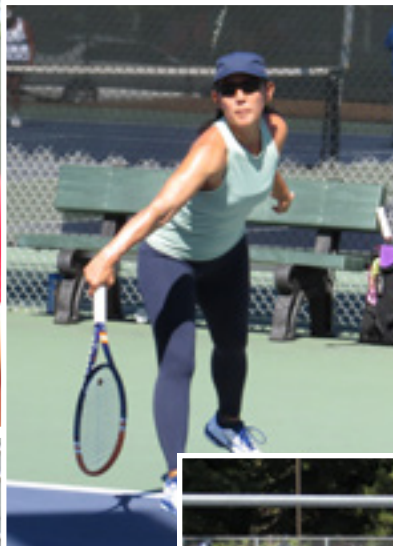


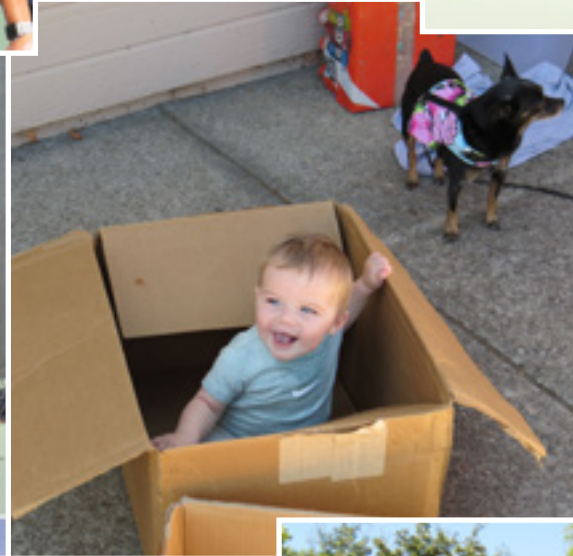














2025 Fall Mixed Doubles Tournament - Results



6.0 Mixed

Amber Golini & Dave Wong defeated
Michelle Gonzales & Tom Kermoian
6-3, 6-1

7.0 Mixed

Erin Brindley & Steve Buchholz defeated
Renee Mercier & Sujith Chandroth
6-3, 6-2



8.0 Mixed

Sandra Harris & Alex James defeated
Sabrina McQueen & Thomas Lyhne
7-5, 1-6, 6-4

Check out the Fall Mixed Doubles
Tournament photos here:
<https://wcrc.zenfolio.com/p1015443171>

OPERATING HOURS AT WCTC**Monday – Friday: 8am-10:00pm • Saturday & Sunday: 8am-8pm****November 2025**

November is a time when we all reflect on our year and what we are grateful for. At Lifetime, we are so grateful for the smiling faces we see everyday and to be a part of a community that fosters friendship, fitness and fun competition. We wish you, your friends and family a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday.

THANKSGIVING HOURS:

We will be closed all of Thanksgiving Day on Thursday, November 27th. We will be open regular hours during the rest of the week, including on Black Friday 11/28. Keep an eye out for our Black Friday Sale!

NOVEMBER PASSHOLDER SPECIAL

In celebration of our passionate player community, this month's passholder special will be ONE FREE GUEST PASS. Passholders can invite a friend or family member to join one rec play court reservation or walk-on, and their guest fee will be waived.

**NEW RACQUET + PADDLE DEMO EXPERIENCE WITH RACQUETPASS**

Starting in November, we expanded our partnership with RacquetPass to include our demo program. Now, when you demo a racquet or paddle, you can get text or email reminders directly to your phone for due dates for your demo. No need to sign up—this will be automatically available to all players in November. We're thrilled to bring you this upgrade and look forward to helping you keep your game in top shape!

OPEN SPOTS IN FALL 2 AND HOLIDAY CAMPS

There is still room to prorate into our Fall 2 classes for Youth and Adults! In addition, we will have drop-in offerings on select classes in our Intermediate, Advanced and Specialty classes starting the second week of November. [Register on CourtReserve!](#)

In addition, spots are still available in our Youth holiday camps. [Secure your child's spot today!](#)

Little Tennis & Little Rallyer Camps (ages 4-6): 9:00-11:00am

Youth Improvement Camps (ages 7-15): 9:00am-12:00pm

- ☐ Thanksgiving Camp: November 24-26 (M,T,W)
- ☐ Holiday Camp 1: December 22-23 (M,T)
- ☐ Holiday Camp 2: December 26 (F)
- ☐ Holiday Camp 3: December 29-30 (M,T)
- ☐ Holiday Camp 4: January 2 (F)

LEAGUE MATCH SCHEDULE WIDGET

View upcoming USTA League and Day League matches [here](#).

Visit us online at www.lifetimeactivities.com or stop by the the office at 1751 Heather Drive. Please call with any questions at 925-945-0105 or 925-945-1102.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

2025

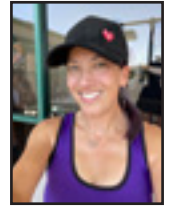
Nov

Nov 1-3	USTA 55+ Nationals 7.0/9.0
Nov 1-3	USTA 18+ Mixed Nationals
Nov 2	USTA 55+ Mixed Season Closes
Nov 2	USTA Combo Doubles Season Closes
Nov 3	WCRC Men's WING Singles Season Opens
Nov 3	USTA 40+ Team Registration Opens
Nov 3	USTA 40+ DT Team Registration Opens
Nov 3	USTA 18+ Mixed Team Registration Opens
Nov 6-9	USTA 55+ Mixed Playoffs Round 1
Nov 8-10	USTA 55+ Nationals 6.0/8.0
Nov 8-10	USTA 18+ Nationals (4.5)
Nov 8-10	USTA 40+ Mixed Nationals
Nov 10-14	USTA 70+ DT Playoffs Round 1
Nov 10-14	USTA Combo Doubles DT Round 1
Nov 13-16	USTA Combo Doubles Round 1
Nov 13-16	USTA 55+ Mixed Playoffs Round 2
Nov 17-21	USTA 70+ DT Playoffs Round 2
Nov 17-21	USTA Combo Doubles DT Round 2
Nov 20-23	USTA Combo Doubles Round 2
Nov 20-23	USTA 55+ Mixed Playoffs Round 3
Dec 1	USTA 65+ Team Registration Opens
Dec 1	USTA 40+ Team Registration Closes
Dec 1	USTA 40+ DT Team Registration Closes
Dec 1	USTA 18+ Mixed Team Registration Closes
Dec 1-5	USTA Combo Doubles DT Round 3

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cara Mia Barnacascel

August 31, 2025



Income

Total League Dues	\$3,313.12
Membership Dues	16,672.95
Miscellaneous Income	62.38
Total Tournament Dues	\$5,311.77
Total Income	\$25,360.22
Gross Profit	\$25,360.22

Expenses

Board Meeting	892.83
Captains Meetings	1,256.61
Contract Labor	200.00
Contributions	500.00
Equipment	221.76
Total League Expenses	\$3,038.81
Nationals Fee	1,424.00
Office Supplies	262.38
Total Printing and Reproduction	\$99.99
Rental Fees	-500.00
Total Repairs	\$3,655.16
Sectionals Fees	2,805.00
Software	677.95
Supplies	534.10
Tax Preparation	335.00
Taxes	25.00
Total Tournament Expenses	\$13,757.72
Website	937.50
Total Expenses	\$30,123.81
Net Operating Income	-\$4,763.59
Net Income	-\$4,763.59

Balance August 31, 2025

\$66,032.60

WCRC LEAGUES/EVENTS

Men's WING Singles Season Opens - Nov 3



55+ 8.0 Mixed Team Head to Playoffs



Tammie Snyder and Steve Lehmer's 55+ 8.0 mixed team are heading to playoffs.

pictured: Justin Snyder, Tammie Snyder, Laurie Rananovich, Suresh Bhat, Glenn Teixeira, Audra Lutter, Christine Hohenstein, Lloyd Hohenstein, Darcy Beauchemin, Steve Lehmer.

not pictured: Heidi Belton, Steve Buchholz, Nancy Deschane, Nga Gross, Sandra Harris, Mike Lee, Athena Lofquist, Darien Lum, Janell Mollenhauer, Arnold Soleta and Peter Sullivan.