



THE COURT REPORTER

Newsletter of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club

December, 2008



PEACE ON EARTH

-Tavener-

Walnut Creek Racquet Club

P.O. Box 4574 • Walnut Creek, CA 94596
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OFFICERS

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Treasurer	Lynne Weinschelbaum 285-9503 lweinschelbaum@yahoo.com

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Website	Shari Gonzalez 691-9196 webmaster@wcrc.net
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USTA Leagues	Bret Jones 890-1416 bretjones@comcast.net
Daytime Leagues	Pam Maloney 787-3970 pam4tennis@hotmail.com
City of Walnut Creek Liason	Don Loeffler 330-1605 donloeff@pacbell.net
New Member Liason	Myrl Kan 827-2406 mckan@webtv.net

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My final President's Report... Has it really been a year already? We've had another successful year in 2008 starting a new greener tradition with an e-newsletter as well as doing away with plastic water bottles at WCRC tournament events. We've started a new Fall Mixed League, which for it's freshman season has 100 teams! On a larger scale the Walnut Creek Racquet Club has been named CTA (Community Tennis Association) of the year. I need to personally thank **Bob Graham** who spent a lot of time handwriting three pages of WCRC memories so I could submit our nomination to USTA. The full article and history of WCRC can be found on page 3 of this newsletter.



Tammie Snyder
2008 WCRC President

The **WCRC Mixed League** ends January 4th and teams will need 6 completed matches to compete in the end of season tournament. Mark your calendars, the Mixed Doubles Tournament is scheduled for **January 9th-11th** at Heather Farm.

As the Mixed Doubles season is winding down the Winter Doubles season is just getting started. Deadline to sign up is December 26th. The season will open December 29th and closes April 12th. Go to www.wcrc.net to sign up (and save some money). The registration form can be found on page 7.

Congratulations to **Brian Costello**, **Adam Borovkoff** and **Myrl Kan** whose combo teams will all be traveling down to Districts December 5-7 in Fresno! Good luck to everyone!

We have nearly filled our 2009 WCRC Board but are in need of a **Treasurer**. If anyone is interested in taking over this position, please feel free to contact Lynne Weinschelbaum or any current board member for further information.

Another big announcement is the WCRC website is currently going over a major overhaul. **Shari Gonzalez** has been spending a lot of hours making the new and improved website everything we could imagine. Look for the new unveiling after the new year.

Happy holidays to all...

Tammie

The History of WCRC_____

While working for the Walnut Creek Planning Department in 1968, Bob Graham used to play doubles at lunch time with Darrell Mortensen, Park and Recs Director; John Christenson, Parks Maintenance Director; and Jim Buell, Community Development Director at the downtown courts in Walnut Creek (no longer there). Bob suggested to his partners that the City needed a public tennis program and park facilities to provide more opportunities than were available at private clubs in the County. His colleagues agreed and informed him that Mayor Bob Schroeder and his wife Fran, who knew many women tennis players, were also interested in the same goal.

Bob Graham wanted to form a public tennis club in Walnut Creek in 1968 because his mother taught him and Babe Dedrickson how to play tennis on public courts at Griffiths Park in Los Angeles at the end of World War II. At the time, tennis players were denied access to private clubs based on race, color and creed.

In the Fall of 1968, a dozen or so men and women met at the Schroeder home and at City Hall to pursue this matter. A charter committee was established headed by Jim Buell at the staff level as well as Fran Schroeder and her friends the Bardellinis and the Kings among others. The charter and goals were adopted in the summer of 1969 with original copies on file with the club.

The first tournament was held in the Fall of 1969 at Del Valle High School with about 25 male participants to establish a Men's ladder. The women set up their ladder in early 1970.

Thanks to Bob Schroeder and the Walnut Creek City Council, the 10 courts at Heather Farms were built in 1970 and the first club wide tournament was held.

The 70s were a huge time for tennis. Chris Evert, Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe were at their peak and tennis courts everywhere were packed. Heather Farm was no exception. The courts were always busy and you could drop in and play all day switching around from doubles match to doubles match. Weekends were crazy and courts were busy easily until 4pm both Saturday and Sunday. At that time the pro shop was run by Ren Kern, a close friend to Kern Hildebrand of the City. Ren moved to Lafayette and was replaced by Jim and Dave Trenner. We had two tournaments a year called B & C sponsored by the USTA and at that time the WCRC members volunteered and ran the tournament desk.

In the fall of 1973, the first Walnut Festival Tournament was held with A,B,C and D Categories. The next year the tournament was made an official class tournament and drew players from all over the Bay Area. This tournament continued for over 30 years.

Also in the early 1970's, in memory of her husband Ted Collins, Pat started a Cancer Benefit. This tournament drew some of the best players in the county at the time including: The Saputo brothers Len and Mike, Dick Vandevort, Brent Abel, Jill and John Toni, and Les Hanson, the club pro among others. Les Hanson would play doubles with up and coming junior players in the Cancer Tournament; some of those juniors who played included Doug Swallow, Chris Curley, Eric Berg, Steve Towne, Greg Davis, Doug King and Ric Bardellini.

As a function of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club, Ladies Day tennis originally met on Thursday mornings from 9 am to 12 noon at Del Valle High School. When the Heather Farm Courts were completed, the ladies met there. At that time, there was no pro shop, water fountain, rest rooms, wind screens, lights or even grass. People would use the facilities at the Shell Station. The criteria for Ladies Day: bring one ball, new or use and you must be a Walnut Creek City resident or a member of the Racquet Club. That has held true over the years, although many a lady has falsified her address just so she could play.

Dorothy Butler has been an icon for Ladies Day at Heather Farm for 35 years. In fact, she also signed the original petition for the courts to be built. Dorothy inherited Ladies Day by default. Bobbie Eliason, the coordinator, had asked Dorothy to cover for her one Friday, and Bobbie never returned! In addition to running Ladies Day, Dorothy served on the Racquet Club board as secretary.

The WCRC was also very involved in junior teams, at that time called Contra Costa League. They basically gave money for team shirts each year and several parents including Verna Ogden volunteered their time driving kids to and from matches.

After some controversy it was agreed to allow Juniors to participate in the Club Championships.

Since 1998 the WCRC has had 89 USTA teams go on to League championships. We participate in an average of over 55 USTA teams a year in everything from 2.5 adult League to Super Senior-65 Leagues. We also offer three very popular WCRC Leagues: Summer Singles, Winter Doubles and this year we introduced Fall Mixed Doubles. All of our Leagues are competitive with players coming from all over the Bay Area to sign up.

We are very proud of the Walnut Creek Racquet Club, now over 800 members strong. It is still a place where players can come and pick up a game on weekday afternoons or weekend mornings. Where anyone playing on court 4 has to be able to take a little good-natured kidding; where arrogance has no place; and where newcomers are welcome. Our USTA Leagues, formerly Volvo Leagues are very strong at Heather Farm and bring in players from all over the area. ■



Tennis News



Walnut Creek Racquet Club named CTA of the year!

That's right everyone, WCRC has been give the top honor this year for CTAs throughout the Bay Area by the USTA! In case you're wondering what a CTA is here's the official definition from the USTA website:

A USTA Community Tennis Association (CTA) is "any incorporated, geographically defined, not-for-profit, volunteer-based tennis organization that supports or provides programs which promote and develop the growth of tennis."

In essence, a CTA is a tennis-specific service organization. It is an organized group of dedicated volunteers and professionals who come together to support community tennis programs. As an association, the group works to coordinate and maintain programs and services and guarantees they are open and accessible to all. These tennis enthusiasts may act as advocates, program administrators, promoters, or fund-raisers. Fueled by local volunteers, this not-for-profit association exists to promote and develop the game of tennis in the community.

Really exciting news for us and for all of our volunteers who work so hard to make this such a great club.

If you're interested there is an awards banquet to be held on January 24th in San Ramon - details can be found here: <http://www.norcal.usta.com/news/fullstory.sps?iNewsid=6623171&itype=1941>.

Gay & Lesbian Tennis Federation

by Zoe Carpenter

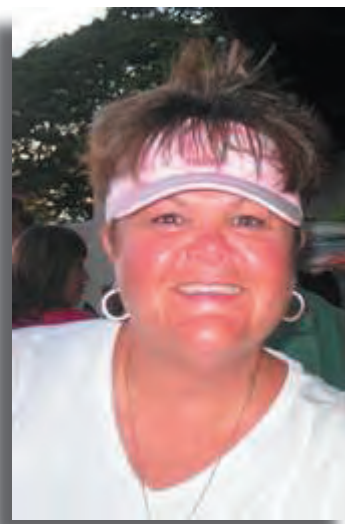
I was elected the Director of Women's Tennis on the Board of Directors for the Gay and Lesbian Tennis Federation (GLTF) in San Francisco for the year 2009.

I am very interested in expanding membership in 2009, and would appreciate any references or new members that would like to talk about joining to contact me, or feel free to give your gay or lesbian friends or family members my name if they are interested in playing with this group.

We have multiple USTA teams that play out of San Francisco and Oakland for both women and men's Leagues, as well as mixed Leagues. GLTS also has weekly tennis drop in, monthly socials, tournaments and event lists, as well as other social tennis events held regularly.

There is a great group of people that play both inside and outside of the USTA realm. I am hoping to expand the Women's program to the Contra Costa area next year.

Please feel free to contact Zoe Carpenter at zacarpe@prodigy.net.





Tennis News



Play Tennis

Are you new to the game of tennis or new to the area? Would you like to meet other players of your caliber in either a social or a competitive setting? If so, please join us on Thursday, January 29th for an informational meeting regarding USTA and WCRC Leagues.

USTA Leagues offer men and women competitive, fun team match play in the country's largest recreational tennis League. There are many exciting formats, which include Men's, Women's, Combo, Seniors, Mixed, Flex and Tri-Level Leagues.

If you are interested in attending this meeting or would like additional information, please contact: Misty Bruns at misty.bruns@yahoo.com or by phone at 925-360-8812 or Tammie Snyder at tammie@gte.net or 925-957-0604.

Date: January 29, 2009

Location: Sports Basement

Address: 1881 Ygnacio Valley Rd. (across the street from Heather Farm)

Time: 6:30 pm

Everyone attending will get 15% off any purchase at Sports Basement. Food, drinks, beer and wine will be provided. There will also be fun games to win gift certificates.

Family and Friend are welcome to shop during our meeting.



EXTRA!!! The Times EXTRA!!!

LOOKING FOR PLAYERS

New players looking to get into USTA League? Misty Bruns has offered to captain a 2.5 women's and a 2.5 men's team next season.

If you are interested in registering on either team please contact Misty at misty.bruns@yahoo.com or by phone at 925-360-8812.





**New Member
Information
Removed for
Privacy**

WCRC Men's & Women's 2009 Winter Doubles League Registration Form (Also on-line at www.wcrc.net)

PLAYER 1

PLAYER 2

Name	_____	_____
Mailing Address	_____	_____
City	_____	_____
ZIP Code	_____	_____
Home Phone	_____	_____
Work or Cell Phone	_____	_____
E-mail address	_____	_____
NTRP level	_____	_____

WCRC Member? ☐ YES ☐ NO

☐ YES ☐ NO

Division for which you are registering (please check one): NTRP (check one)

- ☐ Men's 3.0
- ☐ Men's 3.5
- ☐ Men's 4.0
- ☐ Men's 4.5
- ☐ Men's 5.0/5.5

- ☐ Women's 2.5
- ☐ Women's 3.0
- ☐ Women's 3.5
- ☐ Women's 4.0
- ☐ Women's 4.5/5.0

Registration Fees (note - if you are interested in joining the Racquet Club, please download a membership form from <http://www.wcrc.net/about/membership.htm> and return it with this application):

- * \$35 per team (both Walnut Creek Racquet Club Members) • \$30 per team for on-line registration
- * \$45 per team (one WCRC Member, one non-member) • \$40 per team for on-line registration
- * \$55 per team (both non WCRC members) • \$50 per team for on-line registration

On-Line Registration will remain open until **December 27th, 2008**. If you would like to register by mail, return this form by **December 21st, 2008** with a check for registration fees (payable to WCRC) to: WCRC, 1024 Julie Court, Concord, CA 94518.

Questions? Call Shari Gonzalez at 925-691-9196 or via e-mail webmaster@wcrc.net

League Information: Players may enter the WCRC Winter Doubles League in more than one division (i.e., 3.0 and 3.5), as long as he/she is not playing below his/her level. If a player is entering in more than one division, he/she may enter with the same partner or a different partner but may not enter with different partners at the same level.

Once League play is complete and registration for the end-of-League Tournament begins, a player may enter the Tournament at more than one level. However, if scheduling problems arise the Tournament Director will require the player with a conflict to forfeit the division of his/her choice. **No exceptions will be made for match rescheduling if this situation arises.**

Polynesian Paradise Party

When: Friday, February 27, 2009
Time: 7:00 - 10:30 pm
Where: Heather Farms Community Center
Cost: 1 Ticket \$ 25 • 2 Tickets \$ 45
5 Tickets \$ 110 • 10 Tickets \$ 200 (get a team table & save)



Dust off those flowered shirts and spray on some sunless tanner. Gather some flowers and a grass skirt and join us for the annual WCRC Winter Party. This year's theme is Polynesian Paradise!

We will be offering great food, drinks, prizes for best dressed, and even learn the hula!

We also will be recognizing all of our fantastic players who have been at the top of their games in League play, summer singles, and winter doubles.

Save some moola and reserve an entire team table for a reduced price!

Dress up and win a prize!

Learn the hula!

**Sign up on line at:
www.wcrc.net**



Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Number of Tickets: _____ Total Amount Due: \$ _____

Please make check payable to WCRC and send to: Shari Gonzalez, 1024 Julie Court, Concord, CA 94518
Questions? Contact Shari at 691-9196 or at shari.gonzo@gmail.com. **Sign up on line at www.wcrc.net**

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If you are looking to advertise, submit an article or photograph for an upcoming newsletter, please contact Tammie Snyder at 925-957-0604 or email her at tammie@gte.net.

Deadline for the January issue is Friday, December 26th.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Lynne Weinshelbaum

as of October 31, 2008



Walnut Creek Racquet Club

Profit & Loss

January through October 2008

	Jan - Oct 08
Income	
Mixed Doubles League '08	3,390.00
Awards Dinner 08	1,954.00
Winter Doubles 08 Income	8,781.00
Summer Madness Tournament	348.00
Interest Income	14.93
Advertising Income	1,040.00
Membership Dues	13,363.68
Board Dinner	233.00
Summer Singles League	6,330.00
Calcutta Tournament	3,445.00
Total Income	38,899.61
Expense	
Awards Dinner 2009	300.00
Winter Doubles 08	5,261.74
Board Appreciation	483.55
Awards Banquet '08 Expenses	3,401.35
Club Championships 07 Expenses	475.38
Board Meeting Expense	319.17
Summer Madness Expenses	395.33
Paypal Fees	983.22
Dues & Subscriptions	100.00
Donations	75.78
Member Directory	2,145.52
Newsletters-Court Reporter	3,842.57
Non-Profit Fees	55.00
Postage	1,350.00
Post Office Box Rental	70.00
Supplies	1,397.90
Website	976.35
Board Dinner Expenses	878.27
Summer Singles League Expenses	1,672.68
Calcutta Tournament Expense	3,575.07
Total Expense	27,758.88

Balance October 31, 2008

\$11,140.73

WE NEED YOU!

2009 Treasurer Position Needed.

Contact any WCRC board member for more details!



WCRC
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www.wcrc.net

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