



National Senior Women's Tennis Association

Magazine

2015 Vol. 3

October Harvest Yields Multiple Gold Slam Champions

by Carolyn Nichols

What does it mean to win a "Gold Slam"? It means a senior player has won all four Category I USTA National Championships in a calendar year: Clay, Hard, Indoor Hard and Grass in singles or doubles. It's the senior equivalent of a Grand Slam (that accomplishment Serena was going for in NYC).

Tina Karwasky completed her Gold Slam (her fourth in as many years, in singles) in August when she won the 60 Indoors. Think about it...no off days, no losses... playing on all those surfaces, from NY to Alabama to California...for four years. Dodo Cheney would be proud.



Karwasky



Wright

Susan Wright has been just as dominant in 55 doubles, and won her second straight Gold Slam in 55 doubles at Chamisal, and third in four years...and she won it this year with four different partners (Carolyn Nichols, Tracey Thompson, Karwasky and Kathy Vick). She hasn't lost in 55 doubles at a Category I in the past 4 years, but missed one national in order to attend her daughter's graduation (family first). The final of three of the four tournaments went to three sets.

Julie Cass won the 45 singles gold slam at Chamisal, beating Shelly Works in the final. She also won three of the four 45 doubles this year (after winning the 45 Gold Slam in doubles in 2014).



Julie Cass

Jane Lutz won both the singles and doubles gold slams in the 85s for the second year in a row (with Rita Price), beating Rita in the final at Chamisal in straight sets. She's only lost one singles match in the 85s since entering the division and one doubles...truly dominating. Rita Price's Gold Slam this year is her third in doubles (one with Pat Jackson, two with Jane Lutz).



Gold Slam duo Rita Price and Jane Lutz



Gold Slam Jane

Betty Wachob won her first gold Slam, in 70 singles, by beating Garolann Castell in three sets in the indoor singles (and she won the doubles with Castell too).



Burnett Herrick

Burnett Herrick dominated the 80s this year, winning all four singles and the three doubles held in the 80s. She also won the world singles and doubles and team in Croatia...what a year for the 79 year old (her birthday is at the end of December)!



Betty Wachob Gold Slam

Cathie Hall won the Indoor and Hard singles in the 90s, which qualifies her for a Gold Slam since those were the only tournaments held for 90s.



Cathie Hall

Congratulations Everyone!

National Senior Women's Tennis Association

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President's Message

by Kathy Langer



NEW NSWTA WEBSITE:

For those of you who have not seen the NSWTA's new website, stop reading now and log in to www.nswta.org and take a look! Member log-in Password **goldball2016**.

The site is colorful, informative and filled with articles for members as well as those who want to know about our great organization. It includes tournament schedules, membership applications, plus opportunities to make donations and pay dues using PayPal. It also has USTA news, latest news of members' accomplishments, NSWTA history, and lots of photos.

On the member log in page, you can access past NSWTA Magazines and the directory, besides seeing the latest news. You will have the codes for UNITED Airlines and Tail discounts as well as discounts from new advertisers. You can also download a donor application for our fabulous NSWTA Auction held in Houston at the National Clay Courts in April, or have a chance to bid on items if you can't attend. Check the site often to see all of the latest happenings.

Special thanks goes to NSWTA Board member Gail Murayama who put in many volunteer hours to work with the web site designer to create our site and will continue to update it. Lots of other people contributed ideas and continue to do so. Feel free to

send suggestions or questions to info@nswta.org as the site evolves.

2016 INTERSECTIONALS

For many, many years, Intersectionals has rotated between Florida on clay courts and Texas on hard courts. Weather has been an issue in the past, with rain sometimes in Florida and cold in Texas. There was an effort by some players to have the hard courts moved to another site in the West because of cold weather the past two times the event was in Texas. The USTA requires bids for the event be turned in by July 1.

Because San Antonio was the only official bid, the USTA Adult Competition Committee awarded them the bid. Because the NSWTA supports this event I hope you urge your sections to send teams and continue to make this our largest women's event in the country. San Antonio says it won't be cold next year! (They didn't say that but we can hope!) They also have a new hotel and the building is being renovated. It should be a much better experience.

MARGARET RUSSO SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD:

Congrats to Barbara Hubbard from Hawaii, who was awarded the prestigious sportsmanship award at the Intersectionals in Boca Raton. Barbara is the perfect example of how one should conduct herself both on and off the court!

Keep playing our National Tournaments! You too can win a Gold Ball!

Kathy

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BUSINESS NEWS

2016 United Airlines Discount for NSWTA Members

The United Airlines discount Code for all NSWTA members for 2016 is **ZW4H 417523**.

There is no charge if you book online, using the discount. For those who cannot book online, you can call United Reservations Meetings Desk at 800-426-1122 and give them the number but you will be charged \$25 for this arrangement.

Due to a change in "policy," United Airlines has modified our contract regarding discounts for NSWTA members. The amount of the discount will remain the same, but **it is required that your travel be to and from a tournament**. We will list the Category I and II tournaments in the United agreement.

If you have any difficulty making your online reservations, please email suebramlette@comcast.net.

Contributions

Margaret Anderson	\$ 50	In memory of Pat Jackson
Margaret Anderson	\$200	In memory of Martha Frederick
Leslie Arakelian	\$50	
Marcia Bennett	\$500	In memory of Fred Bennett
Cindy Benzon	\$100	
Kappie Boles	\$ 50	In honor of Sue Bramlette
Erin Boynton	\$500	
Jane Buffington	\$ 50	
Be Be Burns	\$110	
Brenda Carter	\$200	In memory of members who passed away in 2015
Andrea Ciota	\$ 25	In memory of Bob Gillis
Margaret Cooper	\$200	In memory of Barbara Cooper
Donna Drosner	\$100	
B'Ann Gabelt	\$ 50	
Lurline Fujii	\$ 25	In memory of Hattie Somerville
Judy Judd	\$400	
Cathy Kestle	\$100	
Judy Louie	\$ 75	In memory of Hattie Summerville, Muriel Osborne, and Kay Nakaganeka
Mary John Lynch	\$100	In honor of all the Intersectional teams
Dorothy Matthiessen	\$100	
Nancy Muller	\$ 25	In memory of Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Falkenberg
The New England 80's team	\$100	In honor of Captain Judy Smith
John Powless	\$100	
Jane Ross	\$100	Remembering my silver ball
Barbara Sasser	\$100	
Betsy Savitt	\$ 25	In memory of Robert Savitt
Judy Smith	\$200	Thanks for all you do from the New England 80's team
Mary Jane Stangby	\$100	In memory of Marilyn Skiffington
Faye Stokes	\$ 25	
Louise Stoltzky	\$ 50	
Fran Tomaselli	\$ 25	
Laurie Leach, Esther Williams, Jacquie Van Haelst, Carla Rolde, Judy Smith (NE 80s)	\$200	In thanks for what the NSWTA does
Sheila Weinstock	\$100	In honor of the NSWTA Board
Betty Weiss	\$100	In memory of Pat Hammer

Magazine Advertising

Magazine and new Website advertising rates have changed:

PRINT ONLY

1/4 page: \$250 an issue

PRINT magazine (\$750/year)

1/2 page: \$500 an issue

PRINT magazine (\$1,500/year)

Full page: \$1,000 an issue

PRINT magazine (\$3,000/year)

WEBSITE ONLY

Logo Ad with link to the company's website: \$6,000/year

PRINT & WEBSITE

1/4 page: \$150 an issue

PRINT magazine (\$450/yr) + \$3,000/year
for WEBSITE = \$3,450/yr

1/2 page: \$300 an issue

PRINT magazine (\$900/yr) + \$3,000/year
for WEBSITE = \$3,900/yr

Full page: \$700 an issue PRINT magazine
(\$2,100/yr) + \$3,000/year for
WEBSITE = \$5,100/yr

NSWTA's website is LIVE!

Launched at the Intersectionals in November 2015, NSWTA.ORG is now our official website. It offers a 24/7 informational network for members and sponsors to access NSWTA news and discounts and to conduct payment transactions for annual membership dues and donations to NSWTA Foundation.

NSWTA.ORG offers a platform for members to communicate with its growing network of more than 1,000 tennis enthusiasts via announcements, news "bytes," acknowledgements, and tournament information.

Spread the word and invite your friends and family to discover our world of NSWTA.

For more information, email info@nswta.org.

International Cups

The USTA is changing the way its members are picked for international Cup teams. All interested players must now apply and the USTA will pick from this pool. This change announcement was reportedly sent to every member's email. If you did not get this announcement, and many of us did not, make sure USTA has your most current email.

In a related announcement, the stipend for those chosen to play Cup teams was raised to \$2,000 per player, which is a small improvement and a small win for the NSWTA! We will keep working in this area.

Friendship Cup

Two things are good about turning 75 years old: Leaving your shoes on at the airport, and playing in Friendship Cup!

Several years ago, Mary and Ralph Wilson, (Mary a past President of NSWTA and Ralph, avid tennis fan and owner of the Buffalo Bills football team), fell in love with a hotel and tennis facility in Portschach, Austria and started a tradition of sending ten 75-yr-old NSWTA members and ten International 75-yr-old competitors every other year to compete over a long weekend, with the winning team getting its name on a beautiful Cup.

Sadly, Ralph passed away last year and this year's event did not take place. But, Mary, knowing how much Ralph loved sponsoring this competition, appealed to the trustees of Ralph's estate and they



have agreed to fund the Friendship Cup every two years in perpetuity! The next Friendship Cup will be in June 2016.

Players who applied were selected by a lottery system on December 10. Please check www.nswta.org to see the winners.

Many, many thanks to Mary for her efforts to keep this tradition going as something for every woman senior competitive player to look forward to.

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations To:

Jane Lutz received the Florida Section of the USTA Woman Player of the Year Award at a banquet on November 21 and a breakfast on Sunday, November 22 in Orlando, FL.

Jane had a "perfect year" in the 85's. She won the preliminary Tier II tournament in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in both singles and doubles (with Rita Price) and won 8 Gold balls by winning the four USTA National Tournaments on hard, indoor, grass, and hard courts in singles and in doubles (with Rita Price). The two Gold Slams make a total of five Gold Slams in her career.



Barbara Hubbard from Hawaii received the NSWTA's prestigious Margaret Russo Sportsmanship Award. The award was given via a long distance phone call during the Intersectionals tournament banquet and award night.

Margaret Russo was a popular player from Adelaide, Australia who died from cancer ten years ago. She moved to the US, settled in Vienna, VA and became one of our country's top senior players, achieving a #1 singles ranking on many occasions. More importantly, she was an extraordinary sportswoman. "She was as popular as any player could be on the national tennis circuit," said long time friend Carol Wood.



Dear Kathy,

I am humbled, grateful and absolutely thrilled to be named the Margaret Russo Sportsmanship Award recipient. Margaret remains an inspiration to all.

The check for \$100.00 was an additional happy surprise. My sincere thanks to you and to the entire NSWTA.

Best Wishes and See you in Houston!

Barbara

Shirley Taylor of Garden City, SC was inducted into the South Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame. Taylor only took up tennis at the age of 40. It was not easy sailing. But her persistence paid off. Eight years after she started playing, Taylor won her first South Carolina State Championship. She has since won more than 25 USTA Southern championships, where players from nine states can participate. Taylor also has been ranked No. 1 in her age group for much of the past 20 years. Twice – in 1995 and 2010 – she was named the USTA South Carolina Adult Female Player of the Year. “Maybe a lot of people when they’re beaten that bad, (think) oh, let’s just give that up. This isn’t that fun,” Taylor said. “I just loved playing. I knew I had the ability to do better. You can’t get better if you don’t practice and I practiced.”



Taylor also never let winning change how she acted on court. She has won multiple sportsmanship awards from tournaments. Taylor lives in Garden City, South Carolina, where she still picks up her racquet and heads to the courts. “Shirley’s story is one that should inspire all of us to remain persistent in whatever we’re trying to achieve,” said Graham Cox, executive director of USTA South Carolina.

Diane Barker was named South Carolina Adult Female Player of the Year.

First Balls

Yvette Kruger won her First Ball, the Bronze, when she defeated Sue Boyer in the National 50s Clay Courts at BallenIsles in October. Well done!



Yvette Kruger

Mary Alice Pisani earned third place and her First Ball, a Bronze, beating Fay Matsumoto 6-3 6-3 at Chamisal in the National Women’s 65 Hard Court Championships. Yay you!



Mary Alice Pisani

Harry Carter (husband of Brenda) got his First Ball when they won the Husband/Wife combined age of 140 years National Hard Courts in November in Palm Desert, CA. Harry has been a card-carrying NSWTA member for over 5 years and we are so happy for him!



Harry and Brenda Carter

In Remembrance

Althea Louise Brough Clapp (March 11, 1923 – February 3, 2014)

Louise was an American tennis player and an Honorary Member of NSWTA. During her career between 1942 and 1957, she won six Grand Slam singles titles as well as numerous doubles and mixed doubles titles. She was ranked number one in the World in 1955. In doubles, Brough usually teamed with her longtime friend Margaret Osborne DuPont. Both won their first US doubles title at the 1942 US Championships. The successful pair won another eight consecutive doubles titles at Forest Hills until 1950 which is the longest championship run in history in any event at any Grand Slam tournament. Brough and duPont did not play as a team at the US Championships in 1951 or 1952 but in 1953, they returned to extend their record match winning streak to 41 before losing to Hart and Shirley Fry Irvin (also an Honorary NSWTA Member) in the final, 6–2, 7–9, 9–7. Their career record as a team at the US Championships was 58–2, winning 12 of the 14 times they entered the tournament and losing only five sets in those 14 years.



Brough married Pasadena dentist Dr. Alan Clapp in 1958 and retired from tennis competitions one year later. She taught juniors in California for the following 20 years. She was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1967. Occasionally she played in senior tournaments, winning the doubles title at the US Hard Court Senior Championships alongside Barbara Green Weigandt in 1971 and 1975. Her husband died in 1999. She died at her home in Vista, CA, on February 3, 2014, at the age of 90 and left no children.

Margery Stafford

August 31, 1921- July 19, 2015

Margery “Midge” Stafford, 93, an inductee into the New England Tennis Hall of Fame, died at her home in Bass Harbor, ME, last summer.

Growing up in Madison, WI, Midge showed considerable athletic talent and at 16 her grandfather sponsored her to travel to Berkeley, CA to get professional coaching. That time was cut short, however, when her mother became ill and she was needed at home.

Midge attended the University of Wisconsin, class of 1942. She married Paul Fremont-Smith, and the young family eventually settled in Paul’s hometown of Cambridge, MA. Summers were spent in Northeast Harbor. Midge played tennis at the



Badminton and Tennis Club in Boston, the Longwood Cricket Club in Brookline and at the Harbor Club, in Seal Harbor, the Bar Harbor Club and the Causeway Club in Southwest Harbor, where she retired many venerable old silver trophies as a singles player and as a doubles player with her partner Jane Wilmerding. She also participated in tournaments throughout New England. In her 30s and 40s Midge was consistently ranked in the top five— often in the top three— in New England.

“We were the only campers who had a full silver service on our picnic table,” recalls her middle daughter Deborah Fremont-Smith. “Because mom kept bringing back trophies from the various clubs.” Midge also participated in the Senior Tennis Circuit in her 70s and 80s and is likely still the only player who hailed from Maine to become number one in the country in her age category. She was also ranked in the top ten internationally after playing in several European events.

One of hard choices in her later tennis career was made the day Dodo Cheney called and asked her to be her partner in an upcoming tournament. Mom already had a partner and had to turn her down. That Mom remained loyal to partner says a lot about her; that she sometimes regretted it, also speaks volumes.

In 1996 Midge was inducted into the New England Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport RI with her personal friend Bud Collins presiding.

At age 89, after all those decades of running after tennis balls and trekking, her knees failed her. Her last excursions on the court were with her Grandson Eliot Jia, and great-grandchildren Katie Cody and James Lincoln.

Midge was an adventurer who once climbed above the height of the first base camp of Mt. Everest, trekked in Alaskan mountain ranges and traversed the Tibetan Plateau. At one point she taught English classes in Northeastern China, trading in her cozy Boston condo for a cold water flat in a communist run compound. Midge was passionate about youth tennis development programs for inner city kids.

In the last decade of her life Midge survived open-heart surgery, a near fatal car accident and some serious illnesses, but after she was hospitalized with a stroke in mid July, it was clear she was not going to beat this one. A service of celebration of her life was held September 6.

Donations can be made in Midge’s memory to the Gwendolyn Dolliver Tennis Fund at Harbor House, P.O.Box 836 Southwest Harbor, ME 04679 or the Somesville Union Meeting House UCC, 1136 Main St., Mount Desert, ME 04660.

By her daughter Nan Lincoln

Martha Frederick

1921- November 9, 2015



Martha grew up in the Bay Area of California and went to the University of California in Berkeley. After college she went to work at the Lawrence Laboratory, in work that was top-secret.

When she would come home with black dust all over her, she would tell people she worked in a coal mine. What she was actually doing, she didn’t know, but she knew it was not something she could tell anyone. She didn’t find out that they were working on the Manhattan Project until the atomic bombs were dropped in Japan. Her job ended then.

She then worked as a bookkeeper and office worker in companies that became fledgling companies of Silicon Valley.

Martha became interested in tennis as a senior player, especially after her husband passed away. She won four gold balls in the 90s Division. One of these was won with Lovie Beard, defeating Dodo Cheney and Betty Cookson.

Martha played tennis at the Vancouver Tennis Center in Washington State. She was greatly loved there, which was evident at a memorial gathering December 1, 2015.

by Margaret Anderson

Former Life Member **Anna Anthos** passed away in 2014.

Letters to The Editor

Dear Editor:

I wrote an article for our local paper, “The Oakridger,” and am sending it to you to get more 80-year-olds to play at the Grass Court Championships at Forest Hills next year. We only had 5 women in the 80s singles and no doubles. In Huntsville we had 8 women and in La Jolla we had 14 women in 80 singles. I thought if the women saw what fun they can have in New York City, they might be encouraged to enter next year!

I stayed with Inga Lamonaca, a Westside Tennis Club member who lives within walking distance of the Club. Years ago I asked the tournament directors for housing and they recommended Inga. We paid about \$35 per night then. The price has gone up but it is very reasonable compared with hotel rates. The Club still helps with finding housing and some hotels will give special rates during tournament time.

I went sightseeing in New York City. My favorite activity was my visit to the Metropolitan

Museum of Art, where I headed straight to the painting of Joan of Arc by Jules Bastien Lepage. I found the Rockefeller Center very special and I was impressed by the people of all nationalities bustling around. It's easy to get around by subway. I got a special one-week pass when I was there in July. There were so many kind and helpful people. On one occasion I came off the subway and asked a young man in which direction was the Rockefeller Center. He said he was pretty sure it was left but that I should wait there and he would run to the end of the block and check it out. Sure enough he went and came back and pointed me in the right direction. To make my trip complete I went to the September 11 site and saw the huge monument. It was all a great experience.

Fay Martin

Dear Editor:

We are on the brink of moving permanently to the Rep. of Georgia, to live near our older daughter, her husband, and our only grandchildren Mariam (15) and Alexi (9), whom we haven't seen much in their short lives. The movers come 11/30 and we head out on 12/15 (Tucson-Houston-Istanbul, to be met by our daughter there).

We are buying a nice small apartment in a pretty complex on the outskirts of Tbilisi, about ten minutes from our daughter's home. The development is called Lisi Lake, and it's quite a big property having paved trails through woods and around the lake. Many ex-pats (from the US, UK, France, Germany, Scandinavia) live in the Lisi Lake buildings and it's considered "the" place to live in Tbilisi. Our apartment is 1400 sq. ft., which will be quite a change from our house here, which is 3400 sq. ft. We are downsizing in a big way! Bill and I have been to Tbilisi five times so we have a pretty good idea of the place, and we will be glad for smaller quarters. One thing I'm really looking forward to is once again



living in a place where I can play tennis. Though I've loved living here, tennis has been impossible because no one here plays tennis, and those few who do (because of me) are beginners. Tbilisi is a big tennis town. There are lots of courts and many players. I can't wait! Though I recently turned 83 and have lost most of my leg strength because I've had to give up tennis, I intend to get back.

Anyone in Tbilisi under the age of 50 has learned English in school, so we don't anticipate serious communication problems. Learning to read the writing is something else. Georgian is one of the 13 world alphabets. It's all curlicues. No relation at all to Russian. I intend to learn to read Georgian as well as speak it. I learned to speak fluent French so why not another language? It will be good to exercise the "little gray cells." I hope you can change my address to the following:

Sue Rogers
c/o US Global Mail
1321 Upland Drive
Houston, TX 77043

This company will forward mail to me in Georgia. I certainly want to keep up with the NSWTA Newsletter.

Sue Rogers

Dear Editor:

On Labor Day weekend the USTA announced that the press center at the US Open will be officially named the "Bud Collins US Open Media Center" to honor the noted tennis journalist and historian. This was approved unanimously by the USTA Board of Directors earlier this year.

The press center servicing the US Open is located on the ground level of Arthur Ashe Stadium at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center. A plaque featuring the Tennis Hall of Famer was unveiled at a special ceremony on Sunday, September 6. More than 1,000 journalists from more than 60 countries annually cover the US Open, making the tournament one of the top sports media destinations in the world.

"Few people have contributed as much to the sport of tennis as Bud has," said Katrina Adams, USTA Chairman of the Board and President. "He is a special person, a friend and mentor to many in the industry, and one who has spread his passion for the sport in so many ways. The span of his career is breathtaking, and we are privileged to name our media center in his honor."

Though best known for his long standing tennis column in the Boston Globe, which he started writing in 1963, Collins' career has touched nearly all

major journalistic outlets across seven decades. He became one of the first print reporters to become a sports television announcer when he joined WGBH-TV for its national tennis broadcasts, and his work in television reached its pinnacle when he joined NBC Sports, where he was the face of "Breakfast at Wimbledon" for 35 years. He is considered tennis' pre-eminent historian and is the author of eight books, including Bud Collins: History of Tennis.

A recipient of numerous honors and awards, Collins was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in July 1994. In addition to reporting on the sport, Collins was a fine competitive tennis player who won the US Indoor Mixed Doubles Championship in 1961 with Janet Hopps and reached the final of the French Open Senior Doubles in 1975.

Sally Utiger

Dear Editor:

Mary Boswell and I got together last week. Mary has been missing from the tennis world for almost 5 years while she devoted her time and energy to taking care of her husband Bob, who died suddenly on September 29th at the age of 88. Bob, although mentally in very good shape, was bedridden due to a myriad of physical issues and Mary took care of him at home. She is planning in the short term to stay in her home and may think about other options in the future. She said her two daughters have been very supportive. She is looking really good in spite of all she's been through.



Carol Wood and Mary Boswell

We talked about the potential of Mary getting back into tennis. She admitted that she has done very little in the way of formal exercise- although taking care of her husband was pretty physically demanding. She hopes to start an exercise program at her local gym and when she feels in better shape she may begin to get back on the court. She has a lot of friends locally who would be happy to help her get back on the court. I plan on continuing to nudge her. As many of you probably know Mary does not do email but I'm sure she would love to hear from you via old-fashioned snail mail.

Carol Wood

Dear Editor:

For many years I have said that tennis opens up avenues never expected and it adds to everyone's life in so many ways.

About 17 years ago I was playing a tennis tournament in New England, after which this

Japanese fellow came up to me, introduced himself, and also introduced me to his wife. He wanted me to meet his wife because she was a very good tennis player and wanted to play some tennis while here in the states. He and she had just come to the United States for a three-year job assignment with his company, and he was helping his wife meet some tennis players with whom she could play.

To make a long story short, I introduced Sato Awano, the wife, to my tennis friends in New England and she made friends not only on the court, but also off the court. She played on several of our New England senior women's teams while here and enriched many of our lives as well.

Recently, my husband and I visited Japan and spent three days visiting with Sato and her husband. I even played tennis with Sato at her tennis club outside of Tokyo. What a great experience for us both.

Tennis makes us feel "at home" no matter where we are. Aren't we lucky to have it in our lives.

Sheila Weinstock

Dear Editor:

This came from Ann Price. She is M.D. Associate Dean for Alumni Affairs at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. I thought tennis friends might like to know why they have not seen her around for a while. Pat Greer

*Pat,
I've missed seeing everyone. Hope to play again but cervical disc surgery has ended competitive ability...
All the best, Ann*

Dear Editor:

Having had my first bout with breast cancer, I want to correspond with any of the athletes in our wonderful organization about the side effects of anti-estrogen treatment Anastrozole or Arimidex. I suspect that these side effects weaken muscles and bones; they readily admit to having 30% or more patients getting muscle pains and less bone density from these pills (see 4thAngel.org for good information about cancer drugs). I have suffered this summer from repeated hamstring tears. After therapy I re-tore the hamstring in late September. I quit taking the pills then. Has anyone out there who plays tennis actively had similar problems? Of course, I am 75 but I am not spending my 'golden years' on the sofa watching re-runs of the "Golden Girls." Thanks!

Robbie Ralston Dimond
docdimond@verizon.net

Carol Clay's NSWTA clothing line by Winning Wear



Pictured above, left to right:

Judy in the **LAT LADY LONGSLEEVE 100% COTTON** \$15
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REGULAR ARTICLES

Typewriters, Smokey Robinson and Adult Tennis Tournaments

by Doug Wenger

Chair, USTA Adult Competition Committee



As you may have concluded from my previous article, I often relate music titles to everyday life. I also love using an analogy to explain complex topics. In this article I will use both to outline some challenges and ideas to grow adult tournament participation.

The most recent participation reports show a continued drop in adult tournament participation across many levels. The question is why and what can be done to change this trajectory?

The Adult Competition Committee has been studying participation data, site locations, schedule, age group demographics, advertising, and many other variables seeking the magic formula. A number of ideas have surfaced through the many contacts and relationships our Committee members have with players, tournament directors, and other tennis advocates. Surveys have yielded wide-ranging results depending on the group surveyed. The bottom line is that this drop-off in participation is affecting many, including the players who see more events being canceled, and tournament directors who are feeling economic pressure from a declining player pool while also facing similar fixed costs. Something needs to be done.

There is a saying in business that you cannot run a business “selling typewriters when people are buying computers.” It may well be that the current adult tournament product in some age groups is a “typewriter,” (i.e., has not adjusted to the changing times, and is no longer relevant to many groups of players). How so? Well, take, for instance the huge numbers of college-age players who participate in Tennis on Campus (TOC). These events are formatted with fixed time elements, alternative scoring formats, and many other innovations that are appealing to that demographic. The TOC events are sold out!

In addition, USTA League has tremendous appeal to adults by offering a predictable schedule, innovative scoring, and many other player-friendly and social aspects. Over 50,000 USTA League players rated 4.0 and higher do not play USTA tournaments. Through surveys, these players have told us that they would consider playing tournaments that offer shorter, more economical options than our present tournament

products provide. This is a tremendous market for adult tournament play – loaded with passionate tennis players!

These two groups are just some of the generation of players coming through the pipeline who have grown up and competed in non-traditional formats and embrace those formats as relevant and desirable. These are the potential present and future “customers” of adult tournament play. Our current tournament products are not appealing to a large percentage of this group. In other words, we may be selling “typewriters,” and it may be time to “sing a different tune!”

Smokey Robinson and the Miracles sang a song titled, “I’ll Try Something New.” Perhaps it’s time for us to “try something new” and bring in some additional format options for our tournament organizers to consider.

Rather than toss out everything and start over, the Adult Competition Committee is considering offering additional tournament format options to tournament organizers. These options would provide tournament organizers more flexibility in selecting the appropriate format for their events and the player market they serve. These options appear to be applicable at any level but would remain voluntary.

Examples under consideration include—but are not limited to—round-robins, compass draws, block-seeding with play-in rounds, earlier entry cut-off for improved travel planning, time-based entry cut-off to facilitate compass draws, shorter scoring formats, scheduling flexibility, and many others. We also recognize that there are certain player markets where our existing products may be adequate at this time. The approach we are considering allows for a tournament organizer to keep their event substantially as is if they so choose, while allowing them a set of options to adjust their product offering as their player market changes over time.

As a next step, the Adult Competition Committee will be formulating these ideas into potential additions to the tournament regulations and guidelines. We are planning to bring some of these items forward in 2016 and 2017. I hope everyone will take a long look at our products (some typewriters?) and consider what Smokey Robinson and the Miracles were singing and consider “trying something new!”

As always, if you have any questions or concerns to share with the committee, please contact us at adulthoodtournaments@usta.com. For ranking-related questions, please send your questions to ustaranking@usta.com.

Thank you for helping us grow participation in adult competitive tennis!

HEALTH & FITNESS

Drink, Drink, Drink...or Not

by Victoria McEvoy, M.D.

While California may be crying out for water, our bodies may not be. One of the hardest myths to dispel is the fear of dehydration. If I learned nothing else in medical school, I learned what a beautifully orchestrated physiologic miracle our bodies are. Excepting certain disease states, you can rely on your body to tell you what it needs.



According to Professor Aaron Carroll in the 8/24/15 New York Times, the idea that we need copious amounts of water-- 2.5 liters of water a day-- goes back to a 1945 recommendation by the Food and Nutrition Board, but even that advice stated that much of that water can be found in prepared foods. Since then, coaches, purveyors of bottled water, and well-meaning family and friends exhort all to drink, drink, drink! It is important to recognize some facts surrounding the fear of dehydration that has ensued.

1) If you need water, you will be thirsty. The kidney helps regulate fluids by increasing urine output if you take in too much fluid. However, as reported by Gretchen Reynolds in the June 19, 2015 New York times "Well" section, you can take in too much fluid, and the body may have trouble ridding itself of the excess fluid. This can lead to a possibly fatal condition called hyponatremia. Too much fluid in the bloodstream will cause migration of that fluid into the cells in an attempt to equalize sodium levels. This causes swelling of the cells and could lead to death. This condition may be seen in slow marathon runners who continue to drink along the marathon course but are not actually sweating that much.

2) There is no scientific evidence that hydration causes skin to look better and avoid wrinkles according to Professor Carroll.

3) Dehydration does not cause cramping. According to Professor Miller at Central Michigan University, a study showed that volunteers who exercised and sweated excessively were no more prone to cramping than before exercise. Cramps are caused by muscle fatigue. (Reynolds; NYT, 8/26/15)

4) Heat illness is not caused by dehydration, and, in fact, people suffering from heat exhaustion are often quite well hydrated. Heat illness is caused by a lack of acclimatization to ambient temperatures. Pushing your body in the heat when you are not feeling well is not using good common sense. The treatment is to cool down, stop the activity, and drink if you are thirsty. (Reynolds, NYT, 8/26/15)

5) There is no merit to "staying ahead of your thirst" according to Professor Miller. Once again, he urges paying attention to thirst.

Water is an ideal drink and is contained in many of the foods we eat. By using commonsense and listening to your body, you can avoid dehydration, over hydration, heat stroke, and cramping. Having said that, none of us are listening to our body when we are out in the broiling sun, duking it out in a three-hour match! Heat stroke, muscle cramps, and even death may be a small price to pay when we are going for one of those little gold balls.

High Fitness Tennis in the Boonies

by Lee Hall Delfausse

While driving north from Boston in a snowstorm after Intersectionals in Boca Raton, I wondered how I would be able to keep my competitive tennis game up.



For all those who live in rural areas far from the tennis meccas of Charleston, Fort Lauderdale, or San Diego, you probably have my problem: how to keep fit with a strong game against opponents close to your age.

Puzzled, I started asking senior women players how they stay competitive and here are some of the responses. Belmar Gundersun with her impish smile said, "I quit." Not accepting that answer I went to Tami Bass, a new player in the 55's, "I go early to tournaments and play with local players." Of course, the Charleston champ Brenda Carter had an easy answer, "I hit with everyone." Heidi Attlefellner from Vermont said, "I hit with younger players but stand mid-court and volley their topspin shots."

To solve the riddle I started asking NSWTA players how to get a worthwhile hitting experience with a weaker player.

Here are some of the games I garnered that might help other lonely, frustrated national senior women tennis players who live in the boonies.

1. Have your opponent stand on one side of the

court while you cover the whole singles court. Points can be played to ten using half court singles (marked with a line in the clay) on one side and full singles court on the other.

2. Play games but after the first point, the player who wins that point starts down 0-15 in the next game. The sequence continues with the winning player always starting down a point (0-30) or the losing player gaining a point (0-0). Eventually, the game will get to (0-40).
3. Play games with your opponent where the stronger player is only allowed to hit forehands or backhands, thereby improving that stroke.
4. Play games with only one serve.
5. Play games of 10 where the weaker hitter gets 3 points for every point won and the stronger player gets only one.
6. Have the stronger player only allowed to serve and volley.
7. Play left handed against the weaker opponent or with a stroke you don't own such as just the slice backhand.
8. Move to Florida

Finally, if none of these prove to be stimulating, just drill or find a ball machine or hitting wall. In total despair during your sleepless nights, study some videos of strokes on the USTA player development site.

Here's wishing good hitting to all my friends who like me live in rural areas.

FEATURE ARTICLES

Game Changers: Donna Fales

Donna Floyd Fales is a tennis champion. She was ranked in the Top 10 in the United States from 1960 to 1963, and from 1965 to 1966. She won her first national junior title at age 15. In 1959, at the second national collegiate tournament for women, she captured the singles title. She played on the U.S. Wightman Cup team in 1963. Fales won the US Clay Court singles title in 1962, and was the U.S. mixed doubles champion in 1966. Fales has been inducted into 8 Hall of Fames, including the Women's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame (1997), the Virginia All Sports Hall of Fame (1997), the Florida Tennis Association Hall of Fame (1987),



the William & Mary Athletic Hall of Fame and the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame & Museum (1997). She played the pro tour from 1961 until the first of her three children was born.

But Donna has not just won events. She was awarded the USTA 50 year Volunteer award as testament to her ability and love of giving back. She was Vice Chair of Wightman Cup, Captain of the Fed Cup (1995-2004), served on the National Grievance Committee (1971-81) and was Chair of the Senior International USTA Committee. Under her captaincy the USA won the Fed Cup with King and Rosie Casals in 1967 in Berlin, beating Britain's Virginia Wade and Ann Jones and then again two years later in Athens with Nancy Richey, Peaches Bartkowicz and Julie Heldman, beating an Australian team consisting of the great Margaret Court, Kerry Melville and Judy Tegart, who had finished runner-up in the Wimbledon singles the previous year.

"I was active in the USTA administration at the time and I was a player so it was a very unusual situation," she said. "It's a bit tricky with your peer group because I was still competing against them but I think I had their respect and trod carefully. There was usually a consensus of opinion. When you have forces like that it's not hard to win, you just had to keep them directed and not make too many demands."

During the 1990s she served as Tournament Director for the Sunshine Cup and the Junior Orange Bowl, which was the premier junior event, drawing in excess of 1,000 entries. The winners of the Orange Bowl typically transition to the pros. It was a challenging time, developing procedures and terms, which were very necessary at the beginning. She did all the draws by hand since there were no computer programs then. She did get help from ITF with records and rankings but the selection process was very time consuming.

She was equally interested in junior tennis development, serving as Board President of the Junior Tennis League (JTL) from 1975-89, which involved Arthur Ashe. This group evolved into the Greater Miami Tennis Association and Donna became its Executive Director from 1989-91. She was Chair of USTA National Junior Tennis in 1985.

Donna has been able to juggle all these jobs as well as serve her community. She was asked to join the Boards of her children's school, her country club, as well as the local PBS TV station. On top of that she was a member of the volunteer organization, the Junior League and a committee member of her church.

Last fall, Donna played for the USA in Croatia. She lost only four games in four matches at #2 and helped the team win the Queen's Cup. This was no

mean feat because Donna holds down a 9 to 5 job as Executive Director of the non profit Rebuilding Together/Miami Dade. Anyone who works realizes the challenge of getting ready for a Cup team after a grueling day at the office! Rebuilding Together works to preserve affordable home ownership and revitalize neighborhoods by providing no-cost rehab and modification services. With the help of everyday citizen volunteers, skilled trades people and the support of local business and major corporate partners, Donna's non-profit helps thousands of low-income homeowners in the Greater Miami area. Just last September, Donna was on the news explaining how a local Wells Fargo bank was funding modifications to a local veteran's home that had fallen into disrepair. November 11 she was seen on camera as Rebuilding Together partnered with former players of the Miami Heat and Dolphins and Bank of America to repair a retired Navy veteran and his family's home.

As the face of the non-profit, Donna has a high profile. An affiliate of the national non-profit, Rebuilding Together, Rebuilding Together Miami Dade was established after Hurricane Andrew in 1992. It has rehabbed over 700 homes, including 87 veteran homes. Donna works for a 14-member Board of Directors. Yet somehow she finds time to give back to and enjoy the game she loves. "When you're a junior your whole life is ahead of you," she said. "Now it's behind you, so people are more relaxed, there's a nice camaraderie. I think around the world senior tennis has grown tremendously."

Game Changer: Elaine Mason

Elaine Mason has been an instrumental figure in the tennis community not only in Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley, but on the United States and International level as well.

Here are just a handful of her accomplishments:

- 1956-1980 - Department Chair, Professor at Fresno State
- 1963 - Designed and patented the world's 1st children's tennis racquet ('The Shorty')
- 1971-1978 - Head Tennis Coach at Fresno State
- 1971 - USTA Merit Award for leadership in tennis
- 1974 - Author, "GLM of Tennis"
- 1996 - Inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame
- 1998 - Northern California Tennis Hall of Fame
- 2010 - USTA Service Bowl Award
- 2002-2011 - Friendship Cup Captain, Austria
- 94 National USTA Championships, 36 time

National USTA Finalist • 11 Gold Slams • 14 World Championships • 12 European Championships • 11 International Cup trips • 2005-2008 - Undeclared consecutive World #1 ranking in Singles & Doubles.

This fall Fresno State named Elaine Mason Outstanding Alumna of the year-- Top Dog, as they call it. Watch this YouTube video made by the college: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUqxIJKQsNc>

Elaine grew up in Oleander, CA. She started hitting against the side of a barn in ninth grade when her parents got her a tennis racquet. She went to Fresno State to be near her then-widowed mother and graduated in 1947 with a bachelor's in physical education. She became a high school teacher and tennis instructor. She went to various universities to teach other teachers of tennis and then returned to Fresno State in 1956 as a professor, department chair and women's tennis coach. Always having had an interest in youth sports, she patented a short racquet for children's use in 1963.

After retiring, Elaine was presented with an opportunity to take on a whole new challenge: tournament play. Dodo Cheney suggested she go to a national tournament. She replied she knew nothing about them but at the age of 64 she ventured timidly into the National Clay Courts in Baton Rouge and made a pastime into a passion.

"You have to learn to close out a match and take certain chances and risks when you don't want to," she says about tournament play. "But you have to in order to be a winner. And I started winning."

And she did it graciously and inclusively, earning friendships and accolades. For the past nine years Elaine has captained the US team picked for the very popular match versus Europe in Austria established by Ralph and Mary Wilson, the Friendship Cup. "Watching Elaine compete in various senior tournaments I knew what a great sportswoman she was," says Mary Wilson. "She treated all of her opponents with the greatest respect and with fairness always. So I knew she would be a great captain of the Wilson Friendship Cup on the Worthessee. She has been making lifelong friends and bringing everyone together for a wonderful experience they would remember forever. I will be always thankful to her for helping to make the Wilson Friendship Cup successful."

Elaine's big contribution to our sport, the short racquet, was bittersweet and certainly ahead of its time. She held the patent for 20 years, and saw a bit of interest by junior high school tennis teachers but nothing much happened. "I never made a penny on it," she explains. Then when children flocked to our sport and the major companies began making the racket, it would have cost her over \$100,000 to



challenge them. "I could not afford such a lawsuit," she says, "so I gave up the patent."

Now, thirty years later, she sees the impact of her contribution across the nation as tennis courts and racquets went 'short' to bring kids into our game. But instead of being bitter, Elaine is proud. "I just have the satisfaction that I got an idea established," she says.

The USTA Service Bowl Award, given to her in 2010, acknowledges this contribution of hers to our sport. In fact, Elaine's short racquet and some of her memorabilia are in the International Tennis Hall of Fame in Newport, RI.

TOURNAMENTS

ITF Super Seniors World Team Championships

Umag, Croatia

September 19 - 26, 2015

by Brenda Carter

Team Members:

Kitty Godfree Cup: Kerry Young, Brenda Carter, Carol Clay, Kathy Bennett

Althea Gibson Cup: Betty Wachob, Cathie Anderson, Lee Delfausse, Peggy Andry

Queen's Cup: Lynn Little, Donna Fales, Roz King, Grace Woo

Doris Hart Cup: Burnett Herrick, Judy Smith, Mary John Lynch, Rose Austin

In Godfree Cup (17 countries) play, USA defeated South Africa and Ukraine in the round robin. USA played Germany in the semifinals with Brenda winning following GER's retirement after splitting sets. Kerry played incredibly well and wrapped up the tie by winning 6-0,6-2 at #1. Carol and Kathy won the doubles to give the USA a 3-0 victory. This set up a meeting in the finals with Great Britain, who upset the Aussies in a tie that lasted until almost midnight (late start because of rain). All 3 of their matches were 3-setters!

In the final, Brenda won a very long, tight match against GB's #2, winning 6-3 in the 3rd after two tiebreak sets. Kerry then played GB's #1 and certainly showcased how tough she is, defeating a very good player 6-1,6-3. Carol and Kathy conceded their doubles match after playing one set. This did



Godfree Cup- Young, Carter, Bennett, Clay

not affect the outcome of the tie since USA had won the two needed points in singles.

In the Gibson Cup (13 countries), USA was awarded the #2 seed but ended up in a very tough round robin group. The Netherlands was in their group and they had a teammate who had never played Cup before. It was obvious she was a good player and they were a team to be reckoned with because the new person joined forces with their #1 player who has won several individual world championships in singles and doubles. When playing The Netherlands, Cathie won her singles match, but Betty ended up losing at #1 after a good fight. They still had a chance if they could pull out the doubles, but the #1 and #2 from The Netherlands proved to be a little too strong for Betty and Cathie, who went down in three sets.

The ladies held their heads high and went on to win the remainder of their ties, ending up as the 5th place team, led by Cathie and Betty playing the singles and Lee and Peggy playing the doubles.

Lynn and Donna led the USA Queen's Cup Team to victory in their 8-team field. Lynn played very well in the #1 position and showed her true grit in several long matches. She pulled out one come-from-behind victory to win in a 3rd set tiebreaker! Donna was very efficient with her matches at the #2 position, losing only 4 games in 4 singles matches. USA was seeded 1 and they defeated Germany (#2 seed) and GBR (#3 seed) to claim the Cup. Roz and Grace did well in their matches, too.

The Doris Hart team was amazing. USA was awarded the #3 seed, yet all 9 of the teams were tough and on a given day any team could beat any other team. Judy Smith got things started (playing her first ever Cup match) against New Zealand, coming oh so close to winning her singles point -- lost in a Super Breaker for the 3rd. Burnett, however, won her match, so the doubles match became the deciding match. Burnett and Judy won the tie by splitting sets, then winning a seesaw 3rd set super



Gibson Cup- Andry, Delfausse, Wachob, Anderson



Queens Cup- Fales, King, Woo, Little



Hart Cup- Herrick, Austin, Smith, Lynch

tiebreaker! This win put them in the driver's seat of their RR. They capped off the week by defeating GB and Argentina, winning both singles in each tie. Mary John and Rose played well in their doubles matches each day, beating Argentina and losing a close one to GB. 2015 marks the first year the USA has brought home the Doris Hart Cup. Kudos!

So, on the women's side, the USA brought home 3 of the 4 Cups from the 2015 ITF Super Seniors Team Championships. At the awards ceremony, we all were filled with thanksgiving and joy when the national anthem was played in our honor.

ITF World Individual Championships Umag, Croatia

September 27-October 4, 2015

by Cindy Babb

The ITF World Individual Championships were held the week following the Team Championships in Umag, Croatia. Umag is a tourist town directly on the Adriatic Sea. Its main claim to fame is that it is the host to the ATP Croatian Open Tournament during the summer and it is a popular destination for German tourists looking for sun and sport. The Hotel Umag, our home for the duration of the tournament, was located only steps from the Adriatic and the view of sunrises and sunsets over the water never got old. The history of the surrounding area dates back to Roman times and day trips made to many of the most popular destination cities were fascinating and educational.

In addition to myself, playing in my first foreign ITF tournament, other NSWTA members who elected to play this tournament on the slow, red European clay were Peggy Andry, Jane Pang, Burnett Herrick, Judy Smith, and Canadian member Brenda Pfaus.

The first day of the individual tournament was met with an interesting weather phenomenon, "The Bora Winds." These winds are fair weather winds coming out of the Alps that last for three days. A google search found that Bora winds can reach hurricane strength. We were lucky, our winds were only 40-45 mph! The Americans left standing at the end of the week that were neither blown off the court by the winds or their opponents were: Dick Johnson, M70 singles; Clem Hopp, M85 singles; Burnett Herrick, W80 singles and doubles; Judy Smith, W80



Cindy in Umag with new friends

doubles with Burnett Herrick; and Hugh Thompson, 70 mixed doubles with Frances MacLennan. Congratulations to our American World Champions!

National Women's 35-85 Hard Court Championship

Chamisal Tennis Club, Salinas, CA

October 5-11

Chamisal 35s

Gee Gee Garvin came in second in a three-person round robin to win Silver.

Stephanie Newell got the Bronze.

Garvin and Debbie Spence-Nasim won the doubles round robin.

Chamisal 45s

Julie Cass beat Shelly Works in the finals to win the Gold (and a Gold Slam), 6-3, 6-2. Tracie Currie took Bronze.

Currie and Debbie Spence-Nasim won the doubles, beating Cass and Alissa Finerman 6-4, 7-6 (4). Pam Cooke and Kim Lackey won Bronze. Shelly Works and Judy Newman won the Consies.



45s-Kim Lackey, Pam Cooke

Chamisal 55s

by Sheryl Leicher

I've been a member of NSWTA for about 15 years, since I played in the 50s Indoor Nationals at the Wimbledon Racquet Club in St. Clair Shores near Detroit, just about an hour from my home town of Ann Arbor, Michigan. I have loved reading the newsletter and now that I'm retired and looking for new adventures, I decided to play on grass for the first time in the 65s National Grass Courts at Germantown. I met so many wonderful, accomplished, and interesting ladies there and had such a great experience that, on the hearty recommendation of Chris Grant and others, I decided to come to Chamisal.

I talked my old friend Cheryl Hirtler (from Costa Mesa, CA, and Los Caballeros Racquet Club) into playing doubles with me in the 55s. (She's a young thing.) I've known Cheryl since I started playing tennis in Orange County in the mid-1980s, but we hadn't played together since the early '90s



55s- Sheryl Leicher and Cheryl Hirtler

when I moved from sunny Southern California to Ann Arbor. What a treat it was to spend time with her and introduce her to national age-level tournaments.

It was also really nice to see the friendly and familiar faces of many players who had competed at Germantown. Good times! We were both enthralled with stories the ladies told about their tennis lives, partners, and friends, some of whom had known each other and played together since they were juniors or college players. They all seemed so knowledgeable about the history of the sport and the traditions of the national tournaments.

Aside from offering perfect weather and a picturesque, pastoral setting for the competition and festivities, Chamisal Tennis and Fitness Club did an outstanding job of hosting the tournament. Tournament Director Scott Krueger was

always on hand, and local members added to the excitement. Tuesday started off with a Gourmet Omelets Bar, with omelets made to order and delicious

potatoes and other sides. Tuesday night was full of the excitement of artistic endeavors and shopping, all while eating pizza and salad and drinking cabernet, chardonnay, and beer. There was a flurry of intensely focused activities: colorful quilt construction; elaborate and intricate origami composition; Stella and Dot jewelry shopping; cosmetics and skin care products and more. In preparation for the Players' Dinner on Wednesday evening, the locker room became a frenzy of belles getting ready for the ball--all with the same vigor and intensity with which they prepare for the oncoming tennis ball! It was great to see these queens of the court in off-court action. The evening was spectacular, with good food, wine, live music, and dancing under the stars. The quilting composition prizes were awarded and we all celebrated Judy's 79th birthday. On Thursday evening, we were treated to wine and cheese and lots



In line at the Omelet Bar



55s-Jewelry Market

There was a flurry of intensely focused activities: colorful quilt construction; elaborate and intricate origami composition; Stella and Dot jewelry shopping; cosmetics and skin care products; and more.

of delicious veggies. Let me mention here that The Wharf Marketplace in Monterey and HT Consultancy sponsored the event, along with Tanimura & Antle

Artisan Lettuce who provided our tote bags. I love the idea of being sponsored by lettuce!

October must be the perfect time of year to visit the Monterey Peninsula. We stayed at the Carmel Mission Inn at a bargain rate arranged for by the NSWTA. From there it was a scenic 23-minute drive through the Carmel Valley and up the Laureles Grade to the Chamisal Tennis Resort. Right across the street from the hotel was a great little shopping area (The Crossroads) with boutiques, art galleries, grocery stores, cafes, and great restaurants. We especially liked the Rio Grille. We closed out each day with a session in the blessed Jacuzzi at the hotel. We are convinced that it soothed our aches and pains and contributed to a good night's sleep.

Cheryl and I lost a fun match to Athena Cajas and Yvonne Gallop in the first round of the main draw. Then, because we got a walkover in the first round of consolations, we welcomed the opportunity to spend some time at Pebble Beach, cruise 17-Mile Drive, chill at the beach a little while, and enjoy lunch at the Spanish Bay Resort. It was an awesome day. The next day we lost to the eventual winners of the back draw, Susan Dawson and Teal Lang. On Friday, we took Highway 1 south along the coast, through Big Sur and Santa Barbara, all the way back to Orange County--a bittersweet goodbye to Chamisal.

Back in Ann Arbor, I play in USTA leagues pretty much year-round. I enjoy my teams a lot and we've had good results over the years. But there's something to be said for striking out on your own, maybe with your BFF, making new friends, traveling to beautiful locations, not having to worry about being captain, not having to wait to hear who's in the lineup, not having to make group decisions, and not having to win your flight, districts, regionals, and sectionals in order to advance to national competition. At Chamisal (and Germantown) I appreciated the encouragement of my opponents, friends, and spectators to work on my game and enter other national age-level tournaments. Next up, Houston on clay and Kansas City indoors!

RESULTS

In the 55 singles the seedings held true, with the top four seeds placing 1, 2, 3, and 4. Number one

seed Susan Wright defeated number two Kathy Vick in the final, and in the playoff for the bronze ball, number three seed Yvonne Gallop defeated number four Anne Lowry. In the Consolation final Teal Lang defeated Kandy Chain in three sets.

In the 55 doubles final, Kathy Vick and Susan Wright teamed up to beat Pamela Cooke and Kim Lackey in three hard-fought sets. The playoff for the bronze pitted unseeded Kandy Chain and Serena Quarelli against Athena Cajas and Yvonne Gallop. In three sets, Chain and Quarelli won the Bronze ball. Susan Dawson and Teal Lang won the consolation final over Anne Lowry and Bonnie Tetrick in two sets.

Chamisal 65s

by Chris Grant

This was the fourth straight year that I enjoyed the challenges and charms of the National Women's 65s Hardcourt Championships. The locale's scenery and history are iconic especially to our 60's generation: Monterey Bay and Carmel to the West; Big Sur and the Pacific Coast Highway to the South; modern marine and military installations, historic missions and the spectacular canyons and green, green Salinas Valley to the East. Good, healthful dining opportunities are everywhere. The West Coast women don't seem awestruck by the views. But, to me, sitting on the elevated roof patio and looking out over the courts towards Castle Rocks in the distance in the late afternoon is worth the flight from the East Coast. True, there are annoying horse flies near the stables and an unavoidable late afternoon sun glare. But senior women's tennis is not for the coddled set.



Sheila Johnson, Janet Watanabe, Kathy Bennett, Martha Downing, Carol Gay, Norma Veal, Judy Janc

There was a different vibe this year. A number of familiar faces from every Division weren't present. But it was very impressive to see several new players, including Sheryl Leicher from Michigan who played 65 singles and 55 doubles with her SoCal friend Cheryl Hirtler. Watching all the 65s who were there excel in tough close matches was satisfying. In the end, in singles, first seed Martha Downing defeated second seed Carol Gay 6-0, 6-0. Mary Alice Pisani earned third place and her First Ball, beating Fay Matsumoto 6-3 6-3. (Mary Alice was my doubles partner. Go, Mary Alice!) Barbara Hubbard marched through the rounds, besting Carmen Almodovar 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 in the backdraw for 5 and 6.

To the careful court watcher, the 65 Doubles offered the impression of increased depth and

significant improvement of several teams. However Bennett/Downing dominated, defeating Gay/Johnson 6-1, 6-1 in the finals and Hasse/Matsumoto finished third defeating Hubbard/Watanabe 6-3, 6-4. Finch/Fischer who played a number of tough matches scored the backdraw finals win when Allman/Hammel withdrew.

The weather was beautiful and sunny. The Chamisal membership was gracious and hospitable. Scott Krueger, the tournament chair, Bonny Middlebrook head referee, the club's professional staff and the members' volunteer committee kept the events moving at a relaxed California pace. The outdoors events, the music, the food, the quilting square event, and the talented massage therapist who worked so hard only weeks before the birth of her first child was expected were much appreciated. Thank you all! You provided enough memories for California Dreaming well into 2016.

Chamisal 75s

by Lillian Carothers

Congratulations to Dori DeVries for her singles win again! This means she won five consecutive hard court singles titles at Chamisal. Dorcas Miller won the silver and Patti Boyer won the bronze.



75s-Donna Ringer, Claudia Giacomini, Dori DeVries, Carol Wood



75s Patti Boyer, Kathy Langer, Michaelin Watts, Lyn Tietz

Dori DeVries and Claudia Giacomini won the doubles, with Kathy Langer and Lynn Tietz coming in second. Third place went to Judy Janc and Norma Veal. Congratulations to all the winners!

Thanks to Scott Krueger and his crew and the referees for making everything run smoothly throughout the week. Food, entertainment and parties kept the week busy.

In the 75's division we had a birthday celebration for Betty Hill and a wonderful dinner party at the lovely home of Michaelin Watts. What an adventure trying to make our way back to the hotel on hairpin turns in the dark.



75s at Michaelin Watts' home

What two ladies trying to multi-task almost

set fire to their hotel room? They turned on their microwave to heat breakfast and in the meantime took their luggage to their car.

On returning to their room the smoke alarm was beeping and smoke filled the room! Thank goodness it did not disturb the neighboring rooms!

Chamisal 85s

by Boots Colwell

The volunteers at Chamisal did a wonderful job providing food, quilting classes, origami classes and all around pleasantries.



Kathie Meyering, Lillian Carothers, Rita Price, Janet Hubbard, Pat Wiedenmann, Boots Colwell, Jane Lutz

The 85's consisted of 6 players: Jane Lutz, Rita Price, Louise Russ, Angie Ray, Pat Wiedenmann and Boots Colwell. In singles the round robin format resulted in a Gold for Jane Lutz, Silver for Rita Price, and Bronze for Louise Russ.

In doubles, also a round robin, Janet Hubbard was to partner with Carol Cofer but sadly Carol had to drop out as her husband was not doing well. So Janet was not able to compete. Janet did play in the singles though. Jane Lutz and Rita Price took the Gold, beating Angie Ray and Louise Russ 6-0 6-4. They also beat Boots Colwell and Pat Wiedenmann 6-1, 6-0. Ray and Russ defeated Colwell and Wiedenmann 4-6, 6-0, 6-0 for the Silver. Colwell-Wiedenmann took the Bronze.

The weather was stunning, the director, Scott, did a fine job and the tournament was a super success. There were big smiles all around, even on the losers. And Jane Lutz succeeded in winning the Golds at all the tournaments this year.

National Women's 70, 80 & 90 Indoor Championships

Club Green Meadows, Vancouver, WA
October 14-20

Indoor 70s

by Carolann Castell

The site: The Women's 70s were held at Club Green Meadows, outside Portland, Oregon. The venue has everything, including a golf course, indoor



70 Indoors-Betty Wachob, Carolann Castell

golf, swimming pools, and indoor courts. It must be the largest club of its kind; not sure I saw all of it, even after a week. Tournament director Nancy Ansboury took good care of all of us. Lunch was done nicely; we could go into the café and order, when we finished play.

The singles:

The semis had Betty Wachob finishing over Linda Bucklin; and Carolann Castell over Anne Russ, who was hitting very big forehands.

Betty Wachob, going for the Gold Slam, won the finals over Carolann Castell; it was more exciting than expected because it went to 3 sets. Betty came out strong in the 3rd set, volleying winners from everywhere. I didn't know she could run so fast. It was good tennis.

We were all very happy for Betty, even me! Betty managed to do what Serena was unable to do. Big congrats from all of us!! Winning all 4 Category 1 National singles, in 2015. What a great role model for women's tennis.

Anne Russ finished 3rd, over Linda Bucklin. Then Ann Loose beat Elizabeth Barnhill for the consolation singles.

The doubles:

The semis had Pang/Russ d Barnhill/Ploor and Wachob/Castell d Bucklin/Polisky, both straight sets. In the finals, Pang/Russ were very difficult. Jane was doing her magic: drops and lobs, no pace, and popping up at net when you least expected her. It was impossible to lob her, even though she is 4'10". Of course I tried; to no avail. Anne was firing forehand missiles, so it was a tough combination. Wachob/Castell prevailed, 6-4, 6-1. Not easy.

We stayed late to watch an excellent match with Barnhill/Ploor and Bucklin/Polisky. There were two tie-breaks in the first two sets; a long match. It looked like it could go either way, until the very end. Elizabeth Barnhill and Sheri Ploor persevered, 6-4 in the final set, finishing 3rd. Byrd/McCandless won the consolation doubles, over Loose/Karasinski, 6-2, 6-1.

Indoor 80s

by June Wurden

The Women's National Indoors was held at Club Green



80s- Pflanz, Smith, Van Haeist, Leach, Wurden, Austin, Herrick, Ray

Meadows in Vancouver, Washington. The players wish to thank Nancy Asboury for all the great work her staff and Club Green Meadows did to make this a wonderful experience for 15 of us that played in the Women's 80's. We were very happy to have Betty Rankin as our umpire and wish her the best with her new hip.

Nine ladies played the singles regular draw and six teams played in a delightful doubles round robin. We all welcomed Barbara Pflanz (Professor of German at the Redlands Calif. University) and to Madeline Smith (Madeline will be 91 in December) to their first national tournament. I am sure you will see more of them in the future. These two were a great inspiration for us all.



80 Indoors-Barbara Pflanz, Madeline Smith, June Wurden

It was a real pleasure for me to see Burnett Herrick, Laurie Leach, Barbara Shahinian, Jacqueline Van Haeist, Mary John Lynch and Rose Austin since I had seen them last 5 or 10 years ago. Also playing was Irene Bretzell, Betty Brunette, Janet Davis, Rosemary Buker, Audrey Underdahl, Angie Ray, and Judith Smith.

Congratulations are due to Burnett Herrick who won the Gold Ball, which gave her a Grand Slam year, and to Mary John Lynch who won the Silver after having a nasty spill in the doubles. Irene Bretzell and I played off for the Bronze. Irene won the Bronze. I might add that she ran like an energizer bunny. I am now looking forward to next year to see all these great fun ladies and to play in more tournaments. Betty Brunette won the Consolations.



80 Indoors - Judy Smith/Burnett Herrick (Gold), Mary John Lynch/Rose Austin (Silver), June Wurden/Angie Ray (Bronze)

In Doubles, Burnett Herrick/ Judith Smith won Gold, Rose Austin/Mary John Lynch won Silver and June Wurden/Angie Ray won Bronze.

Thank you Club Green Meadows for the great lunches and terrific salmon banquet. I hope to see many more players there next year.

Indoor 90s

by Elaine Mason

I wish I could say something constructive about our 90's matches, but basically my partner Cathie Hall, newcomer Madeline Smith from CT and I were just pleased that we even had a match in doubles. Someone at the club called up a player, Lucille Trefzger, to get a fourth to play with Madeline. The score was 6-0, 6-0 but the score does not reflect the good points that were played.

Cathie did not have any trouble with her two singles matches. We're hopeful Madeline and Lucille will be at our next 90's tournament. They each had nice strokes.

I must add that my partner and I were very disappointed that the USTA have chosen not to make possible the 90s grass and clay court tournaments this year. The Copper River Tennis Club in Fresno offered to have the clay tournament, but we did not receive an answer from the USTA. This is unfortunate. We're looking forward to the new 90 year olds next year.

National Women's 40 & 50 Clay Court Championships

**BallenIsles Country Club
Palm Beach Gardens, FL**

October 21-25

40s

Simona Bruetting won the Gold over Mercedes Michel, 6-1, 6-2. Paula Mysilivecek took the Bronze. Trudi Vermeer was Consie winner.

Bruetting/Mysilivecek won the doubles. Kimberly Greason and Mercedes Michel, who upset second seed Trish Riddell and Mary Dailey in the quarters, won the

Bronze.

50s

Fran Chandler took Gold in the 50s, beating Vesna McKenna 3-6, 6-2, 6-2 in the finals. Yvette Kruger took Fran to three sets in the semies and wound up with the Bronze, her First Ball. She beat Susan Boyer in the ¾ match; Sue had taken Vesna to three sets in her semies. Shelly Works won the Consies over Vicki Buholz, 7-5, 6-3.



50s Clay- Kruger (Bronze) with Boyer

Buholz/McKenna won the doubles Gold

over Dailey/Smith, 6-2, 6-4. Marianna Hollman and Shelly Works won the Bronze, beating unseeded Ana Zimmermann and Susan Boyer, 6-4,6-1.

Fourth seed Keller/ Kirby won the Consies.



50s Clay Smith/Dailey (Silver), Trish Faulkner, Buholz/McKenna (Gold)



Les Grandes Dames "The Barbara Cooper Cup"

Winter Park, FL

October 28- November 1

by Gee Gee Garvin

A little background: Les Grandes Dames was founded by Mary Ann Plante and Nancy Reed in 1978. The first event was held at the Maitland Field Club in Florida and sponsored by the Joiner-Mayflower Moving Company. A couple of former Grand Slam champions played in the inaugural event: Wimbledon Champion Shirley Fry Irvin (she won the 50 singles) and Australian Open Champion Dodo Cheney (she won the 60 singles). Les Grandes Dames tournaments are for women between the ages of 30-85+. The Barbara Cooper Cup tournament is in honor and memory of Barbara Cooper, an accomplished, passionate tennis player and supporter of junior and senior tennis. Barbara became a tennis icon in Central Florida where she officiated, ran junior tournaments, and ran the state Husband/ Wife Championships for many years.



Cooper Cup- Carol Clay and Gee Gee Garvin

You may ask, "What makes Les Grandes Dames events special?" Well, since 1978 they have offered prize money, from \$1,000 to \$25,000. Hugh and Jeanette McKean of Winter Park, FL, were early supporters of the event. (I can honestly say I received more prize money at this event than from a previous CAT I National Hard Court that had the same amount of entrants).

This year's weather was perfect: not too hot, no rain, and no wind. The player party had a Halloween Theme and you had to wear a costume to enter the party. There were many creative costumes with best costume award going to Sylvia Will as a monster. Even though some draws were small, there were many top ranked players in many divisions playing this year.

A big thank to Tournament Directors Ellen Goodman and Mary Ann Plante who ran an outstanding tournament and to all of the sponsors for providing the amenities. For those of you who were not able to play this year I highly recommend saving the date for next year (October 26-30) and making plans to play this fun and well run tournament.



Cooper Cup- Halloween Fun

Singles Results

75 singles RR was won by Virginia Merrell of Winter Park
65 singles won by Kerry Young over Carol Clay
3/4 playoffs Sue Bramlette over Ellen Goodman
55 singles Diane Barker def Terri Thomson
3/4 playoffs was the longest match of the tournament being played for over 3 hours won by Suzanne Lippe-Siegler over Maureen Burton 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.
45 singles Susan Boyer defeated Stacey Williams
35 Singles Katerina Stanford defeated Cynthia Nielson

Doubles Results

75 Doubles saw some intense quick volley exchanges as Sally Flynn/ Mary Ann Plante prevailed in the longest doubles match of the tournament over Virginia Merrell/ Sylvia Will 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.
65 Doubles had very strong doubles teams as they played each other in a RR format. Sue Bramlette/ Kerry Young won the title over Carol Clay/ Ellen Goodman followed by Margaret Cooper/ Jane Smith and Flora Aronold/ Elly Leary.
55 Doubles had an upset take place with the #2 seed of Ligia Bottinelli/ Terri Thomson def Margaret Lumia/ Katherine Zanon 6-4, 6-2
45 Doubles Ligia Bottinelli/ Stacey Williams won the Round Robin
35 Doubles Gee Gee Garvin/ Katerina Stanford won the Round Robin



Cooper Cup's Ellen Goodman, Margie Cooper, Kerry Young

National Mother/Daughter Hard Courts

Walden Racquet Center, Montgomery, TX

November 6-8

by Leslie Airola-Murveit

The unseeded team of Leslie and Shelley Murveit from Northern California won the Gold Ball at the National Mother/Daughter Hard Court Tournament in the Senior Division (mother must be 60 years old). They beat the 2nd seeded team, Taylor and Linda Marable from San Francisco and Santa Fe respectively in the semi finals. In the finals they defeated the first-seeds Linda Lyke and



Mother/daughter Leslie and Shelley Murveit, Brenda Humphries, Shelly Stillman Scott, Sheila Chircosta, Christine Chircosta

Ghia Godfree from Southern Cal, currently ranked #2 in the country. This is Shelley's first Gold ball (at 27 years old!) and it was the first time that Leslie and Shelley won a Gold ball together.

In the Open division, Sheila and Christine Chiricosta from Ohio won three matches to grab the Gold Ball. The finals was an exciting match against the local unseeded team of Drew (14 years old!) and Tammy Morris. The experienced Chiricostas closed out the match, 7-5, 7-6. The viewers were on pins and needles during the second set tie-break that ended at 17-15! The Chiricostas have won numerous Gold balls over the years.

In the Super Senior Division (mother has to be 70 years old), Shelly Stillman-Scott and her mom Brenda Humphreys from Salinas and San Diego, California, defended their title from last year by beating the other two teams in the round robin to repeat their Gold Ball victory. Shelly and her mom also won a Gold Ball in 1989 in the Grass Court National Championships.

Tournament director Joe Rosa runs a fabulous tournament and invites more mothers and daughters to enter the tournament next year. The Walden community rallies to provide housing, daily lunches, a cocktail party and a complimentary dinner for all players.

Intersectionals Team Event

Boca Raton, FL

November 9-15

Intersectional 35s

by Carolina Blouin, Southern

We all arrived on Wednesday, November 11th, and were greeted by 93-degree weather and high humidity. Big change for most of us, especially the ones coming from Northern States.



Southern 35s

Once again, we enjoyed nice accommodations at Embassy Suites with free Happy Hour drinks and snacks. At the captain's meeting, our Southern team lost its number 1 seed status as all learned our number one player, Sophie Worrans, came down with pneumonia the day before. So Texas became the favorite team, followed by Southern California, Southern, Florida, Pacific Northwest and Eastern. There were only six sections represented in the 35s this year and we needed to do a round robin. This was probably the smallest but toughest 35's draws in many years and we wondered where all the 35 teams were hiding. Kids, families, demanding careers, too

many bills... but if the reader is in this age group, please try to participate next year. Yes, it takes months of preparation to "escape" for 4 days at our age group, but the tennis and networking with friends makes it worth it!

Saturday, we started the semifinal matches and within 30 minutes, it started to rain. It never stopped. Fran Chandler, our captain, asked for feedback on how to finish the tournament all on Sunday. We suggested to restart the matches at 7:30 am, then play the doubles and the finals with a Pro Set scoring format (8 games). And that's what happened. Texas won two of the three singles matches against us, but our both doubles teams won for the upset of 3-2. One hour later, Southern was playing

BACKGROUND *by Carol Wood*

The Intersectionals is the largest senior women's tennis event in the US, with well over 300 players participating. It alternates being played on clay one year and hard courts the next.

It was an idea in 1985-86 that seemed to be timely-- a national team event for senior women organized by the NSWTA. The first event took place in 1987. The NSWTA secured \$15,000 in sponsorship; the USTA provided balls.

In 1996 the national USTA provided the women's Intersectionals with significant sponsorship monies after some degree of "nagging." (The USTA had been providing monies to the men's Intersectionals for several years.) Lately the USTA, concerned about finances, has significantly reduced its sponsorship of both the men's and women's Intersectionals. USTA provides funds for the sections to send teams, but the NSWTA has once again become this popular tournament's main sponsor.

Huge tournaments like the Intersectionals need expansive sites. The Intersectionals was broken up as a tournament until Larry Eichenbaum, Director of Tennis at Walden Racquet Club in Conroe, TX, was able to find alternate sites so everyone could be together.



Our Larry

All of us who have played the Intersectionals know that Larry has been an integral partner, both in Texas and at our clay court sites.

Southern California in the finals, and Texas against Florida for bronze. After some terrific matches by many past Professional players, Southern won gold, Southern Cal silver, and Texas bronze.

Our women's 35s this year should have been called "The United Nations Southern Team." We are American citizens but all grew up in different countries. In the photo at the beginning of this report, we are, left to right: Candy Reid (England), Ewa Radzikowska (Poland), Nanelly Vallejo (Peru), Jan Deener (Canada), and Carolina (Brazil). The first three live in Atlanta, Jan in Kentucky and Carolina in Augusta.

Intersectional 45s

by *Charlotte Hartsock, Southern*

Sixty-three women from 11 teams represented the 45s in the 2015 Intersectional Championship in mostly sunny and very hot Boca Raton, Florida. The big story this year was that Southern California, the overwhelming winner from 2014, had an entirely new line up and did not win even one of its matches in this year's event. In 2014 Southern Cal was loaded with former touring pros Debbie Spence and Ros Nideffer. This year none of the lineup from the reigning champs were even entered in the tournament. Northern California did not field a team at all.



Southern 45s

However, 2015 was not lacking in talent. Second seeded Florida had mostly new faces, among them Karine Quentrec of France, formerly ranked as high as 53 in the world. Southern had its own Jolene Watanabe, now coaching at the Smith Stern Academy in Hilton Head who was ranked 72 on the WTA tour in the 90's and Texas held its own with Gretchen Rush who was top 20 in singles and doubles while on the WTA.

Rain came again this year in what was to be the third round of play. Saturday's matches were just beginning at 9am and after a brief warmup and 15 minutes of play it began pouring long and hard enough to cancel all matches for the entire day. Players waited all day coming and going with little hope of getting back out on the courts. Some watched college football on the large screen in the pro-shop while waiting it out and some went out to see the new James Bond film in the theater. It was a long Saturday of not knowing. Finally at 5:30pm the decision was made to start round 3 on Sunday morning at 7:30am. The captains agreed to play a shortened format for round 3 with a match tie-break for the third set and if any matches were decided in the singles then no doubles would be played. Round 4 matches would all be

played as an 8 game pro-set with regular scoring. We'd come a long way to play this type of tennis, but it was better than last year when it rained on Sunday and no play was done at all in round 4.



Florida 45s

Sunday came early and the rains held off. Clouds covered the sky and the wind blew. At 6:55am the ladies arrived ready to warm up only to find the gates to the club closed. Without batting an eye, the ladies all clad in their tennis gear scaled the locked and closed gate, climbing the fence over the duck pond bridge, gently tossing the racket bag and jugs over first. After a day of rest and waiting, everyone was ready to play. Play resumed at 7:30 sharp. By 9:30 Southern had defeated Mid-Atlantic 3-0 and Florida beat Texas 3-0. The final match between Southern and Florida could begin at 10:30 since doubles were not needed to determine a winner. Florida was up 2-1 after singles. The doubles split 1-1 and Florida took home the trophy winning this year's 2015 championship 3-2. In other play Mid-Atlantic upset Texas in a big win for 3rd place and New England took home 5th place.

Intersectional 55s

by *Leslie Airola-Murveit, Northern California*

It's funny how extreme temperatures are common nowadays at Intersectionals.



Southern55

While last year we played in our long johns to keep warm in the 30-degree weather in San Antonio, this year in Boca Raton, we battled the heat and humidity as well as our opponents. Normally West Coast players prefer later start times due to the three-hour time change, but we were happy with our 8am schedule, hoping to beat the heat.

There were 11 sections competing in the 55's including Southern, Florida, Mid Atlantic, Eastern, Middle States, New England, Mid West, Pacific Northwest, Texas and Northern and Southern California. But the heat didn't bother players in the Southern Section, who, for the third straight year, won the Gold medal in large part due to the depth of their singles players including Diane Barker, Sue Bartlett, Wendy McColskey and newcomer Lee King. Southern

Cal advanced to the finals after making up a 1-2 deficit to win both doubles matches in a long battle with Nor Cal. The match came down to a third set won by Tina Karwasky and Tracy Worley Hagen over Pam Cooke and Kim Lackey.



Eastern 55

In the final, Southern again won singles 3-0, but Southern Cal took both doubles matches. In the 3/4 playoffs, Nor Cal upset Texas by a 3-2 score. This time, Nor Cal was down 1-2 but took both doubles matches including a 3rd set battle between Yvonne Gallop / Ann Pellow and Kathy Vick / Athena Cajas. Florida prevailed against Eastern to take 5th place. Number one Eastern player Carol Levine finished with a 6-0 record.

The banquet was lively, including a creative art project involving twisting balloons. Tracey Thompson's Kentucky Derby hat was a real hit! It



55 Mid Atlantic

was great to welcome some new players to the 55's division including Ann Pellow and Yvonne Gallop (Nor Cal), Jennifer Shore, Gini Bouchi, Mary Kanopa (Pac NW), Cindy Johnson (Texas), Eileen Goode (Mid West), Kathy

Montgomery and Carol Hammond (Middle States), Karen Haas (Southern Cal) and Kathryn Miles and Meg Barclay (Eastern).

See everyone next year in San Antonio on the hard courts!

Intersectional 65s

by Diana Kitt and Lee Ingham, Mid-Atlantic

The 65s tournament was filled with thrills, chills, and some significant upsets.



Texas 65

The weather was brutal, especially for those coming from ANYWHERE OUTSIDE Florida. It was hot and sticky the whole week, at least for the 65s. (Scary as it sounds, some of us came to appreciate the cold weather in San Antonio in 2012 and 2014). But once again the hospitality at the Club was super.

There were several players who "aged up" into the 65s, all of whom contributed significantly to the final results. New 65s included Kerry Young, Susie Peiffer, Simmy Pell, Cindy Babb, Ann Stanley and Cris Ren, all of whom played significant rolls in the outcome of this

event. A totally new addition was Lindsay Wortham (Mid-Atlantic) who made a big mark--and who had to be dragged off the golf course to play for us.

In the First round, the top seeds, #1 Florida, #2 Southern and #3 New England had byes. All the remaining matches were competitive: Mid-Atlantic won all 3 of their singles matches to beat Inter-Mountain (which went on to win the backdraw - their #2D team of Nancy Engard and Kristen Padberg won all 4 of their matches); Eastern lost to a tough Texas team, with Lynn Thompson's upset over Sue Bramlette being Eastern's only win; Middle States beat Midwest 4-1; Pacific Northwest beat Northern California 4-1; Southern Cal beat Southwest 5-0.



Mid Atlantic 65s

On the second day, Mid-Atlantic put up a fight against Southern Cal, up two singles to one but lost both doubles matches. #1 Florida beat Texas 5-0. #3 New England beat PNW 4-1; #2 Southern beat Middle States 4-1.

Day three, the Semies were riveting. All matches were played in "gawd-awful" heat and all were competitive. Southern Cal, the 4th seed, had the upset of the tournament with their win over #2 seed Southern 3-2. The pivotal match here was very likely the 3 hour match (third singles) with SoCal's Cris Ren's three-set win over Southern's Susie Peiffer. Down 2-1, Southern Cal's doubles teams (#1D of Kathy Bennett and Liane Bryson and #2D of Judy Louie and Ann Stanley) won their matches, giving them the win.

Florida, showing why it was the #1 seed, beat New England 4-1. The Florida win included the #1D team of Kerry Young and Betty Wachob beating Molly Hahn and Vicki McEvoy in 3 great sets. On the "dark side," Mid-Atlantic edged out Middle States 3-2 (including a fun-filled match in which Lee Ingham and Diana Kitt eked out the #2D Middle States team of Chris Grant and Peggy Sears). The noise level was extraordinary in this match. But more important, the doubles' players are still speaking to each other.

The finals was Florida over Southern Cal 4-1, with Florida winning the three singles matches to tie up its victory. Southern and New England played off for 3rd and 4th in a match that won the award for longevity. Southern was up 2-1 in singles. Vicki McEvoy beat a very tough Brenda Carter in three extraordinary sets--that included two tie-breakers. Each point was hard fought; both were stretched to the limits in this competitive match. In the number two singles match, Toni Novak beat Molly Hahn



65s New England's McEvoy and Southern's Carter

in straights and Susie Peiffer beat Lee Delfausse, in yet another long, brutal singles match. It came down to the doubles for these two teams and New England prevailed under tough conditions, winning both doubles matches and earning a 3/2 win over tough Southern.

In yet another 3-2 win, Texas took fifth and Mid-Atlantic came in sixth.

Lots of fun and some great players were missed. They included Mid-Atlantic's Brenda Winstead, who underwent treatment for cancer but who will soon be back.

Intersectional 75s

by Dorcas Miller, New England

The first day brought a surprising upset, with Texas defeating the #1 seed, Florida, 3-1.



Texas 75s won 2nd place



Middle Atlantic 75s

Southern California rolled through the rest of the draw easily, losing only one match to Texas in the finals, to take the gold medal, 3-1. Dori DeVries, Roz King, Norma Veal, Judy Janc and Sheila Palmer made it look easy, and Texas had to settle for the silver.



Victorious Southern California team takes the gold



Lola O'Sullivan models everyone's favorite hat

In the 3/4 playoff, New England played a short-handed Eastern team. Veteran Ann Murphy and rookie Margot Turk teamed up to win the crucial match for NE, 3-1.



A few New England players under the banyan tree

Intersectional 80s

by Mary John Lynch, Texas

The weather was almost perfect, though a bit on the hot and muggy side, the Boca Raton Swim & Tennis Center was in top shape, with beautiful flower beds



Intersectional 80s

surroundings around the courts, and the clay was the best—all made for a fabulous week of tennis. The 80's consisted of only 7 sections participating and those were: Southern, seeded 1st; Texas seeded 2nd; New England; Middle States, Florida; Pacific NW and Southern Cal. True to form the 2 top seed sections prevailed to the finals with Burnett Herrick (Southern)—who has been unstoppable --



New England 80s

winning the singles over Mary John Lynch, 6-1, 6-1. She just wouldn't give me chance! Texas won the final two doubles matches with Lynch/Carolyn Henderson over Herrick/Judy Fowler, 7-5, 6-1 and Margret Canby/Carol Cofer winning over Jeanette Weiland/Gloria Henninger to win the 80s event and bring the



Texas 80s

80's trophy back to Texas for the 4th straight time. Special recognition to the match between New England and Southern as Judy Smith took a set off of Burnett Herrick in a very exciting singles match.

Playoff for 3rd was New England against Southern Cal with New England coming in 3rd. In the consolation bracket Middle States won over Florida. We, the Texas Team, wish to thank the Boca Raton people for their hospitality and hard work in hosting this event; to Larry Eichenbaum and Theresa Bowen for running the tournament. Great job done!

National Husband/Wife Hard Court Championships

Palm Valley Country Club, Palm Desert, CA November 15-19

by Sue Kimball

The third leg of the husband and wife circuit was again held at this much improved venue – courts have been resurfaced and some of the palm trees surrounding the courts have been removed making for less distracting shadows. Under challenging circumstances Gordon Zawtun, who had to run the tournament with only 1 week's notice, did a fantastic job with some fun events thrown in – a fast serve contest (won by Todd and Sue Sprague – Todd for the guys and Sue for the gals), a golf putting contest and a tennis knowledge quiz. Prizes were

awarded to all winners. The little extras and the fact that the tournament winners didn't only receive those coveted USTA gold balls but, in addition, each received a pair of Bolle sunglasses, helped the overall experience – hopefully all of these improvements will encourage more entries next year.

Another nice touch was the addition of a chair umpire for the finals, all of which were played on the center court which offered great viewing for spectators – lots of people came to watch and many of them were NSWTA members out to cheer for their friends.

The 100 age group saw several upsets as the number 2 seeds, Penne & Jamil Atcha, were beaten in the semifinals by the unseeded Mai & Brent Abel who ended up winning this division by beating the number 1 seeds, Gabriela & Stuart Chase, in the finals 7-6, 6-3.

The 120 age group had only one upset when Sue and Mas Kimball beat Anne and Andrew Stanley in the finals in a very tight match 7-6, 7-5. Being one of the Kimballs, I can attest to the fact that we were on fire – in the semi-



Sue and Mas Kimball

finals we beat the Haas's (we had lost to them earlier in the year at the grass courts) and, after several attempts over the years, this is the first time we have been victorious over Anne and Andrew.

But – the real drama came in the 140 age group where Brenda Carter and her husband Harry shook up the whole draw, knocking out every seed in their path to ultimately win the Gold by defeating the # 1 seeded Diane and David Willauer 6-3, 7-5 in the finals. As if this wasn't enough, Brenda was the winning woman in the putting contest – actually she was the only woman to sink a ball at all - and walked away with a nice prize donated by one of the other sponsors - "Eleven".

The Boar's Head Inn in Charlottesville, VA will be hosting the Indoor Championships again in December. Draws have been somewhat small with this tournament being so close to Christmas but with its scheduled move to September next year, we are all hopeful that numbers will improve.

Post Script: At press time, Sue reported that she and Mas fell to the always-formidable team of Diane and Jack Barker in the 120+ finals of the Charlottesville Indoors. But the Kimballs, one year away from aging up, ended the year ranked #1. In the 140+ Indoors, Brenda and Harry Carter lost in the semies but took home Bronze Balls.

Shots from Intersectionals



Shots from Intersectionals



Shots from Intersectionals



Shots from Chamisal



Shots from Chamisal



2016 National Tournament Schedule

(as of December 1, 2015)

Go to <http://carolynnichols.com/16Schedule/>
for links to each tournament

Date	Tournament	Age Division
Jan 20-24*	BallenIsles, Palm Beach Gardens, FL	30-80
Jan 23-31	National Mixed Hard Courts, Rancho Mirage, CA	50, 60, 70
Jan 24-31*	ASICS, Rancho Mirage, CA	35-80
Feb 3-7*	Crawford Cup, Ft. Lauderdale, FL	35-85
	*NSWTA Championships, Alexandria, VA	35-75
Feb 26-29	National 30s Hard Courts, Austin, TX	(singles, dbles, mixed)
March 6-12	National Husband/Wife Grass Courts, Rancho Mirage, CA	
March 9-13	Les Grandes Dames Spring Cup, Clearwater, FL	30-80
April 4-10	National Clay Courts, Houston, TX	35-90 (odds)
April 19-24	National Clay Courts, Baton Rouge, LA	60, 70, 80
April 27-May 1*	NSWTA Championships, Arlington, VA	
April 29-May 2	National 30s Indoors, Gold River, CA	(singles, dbles, mixed)
May 1-6	<i>ITF Young Seniors World Team Championships, Croatia</i>	
May 2-6	National Husband/Wife Clay Courts, Charlotte, NC	
May 9-15	National Hard Courts, La Jolla, CA	50, 60, 70, 80, 90
May 19-23	National Indoors, Homewood, IL	35, 45, 55
May 26-30*	Westwood Senior, Austin, TX	35-80
June 3-5	National Mother/Daughter Indoors, Vancouver, WA	
June 8-12*	Marin Seniors, Mill Valley, CA	35-70
June 19-24	<i>ITF Seniors World Team Championships, Helsinki, Finland</i>	
June 20-26	National Indoors, Overland Park, KS	65, 75, 85
July 11-17	National Grass Courts, Forest Hills, NY	30-80 (evens)
July 17-24	National Grass Courts, Philadelphia, PA	35-85 (odds)
August 7-9	National Mother/Daughter Grass Courts, Chestnut Hill, MA	
Aug 22-27	National 60s Indoors, Seattle, WA	(singles, dbles, mixed)
August 25-28	National Indoors, Lakewood, CO	40, 50
Sept 26-30	National Husband/Wife Indoors, Charlottesville, VA	
Sept 28-Oct 2	National Hard Courts, Palm Springs area, CA	35, 45, 65, 75, 85
Sept 28- Oct 4	National Indoors, Vancouver, WA	70, 80, 90
Oct 5-9	National Mixed Doubles, Clay Courts, Johns Is, SC	40, 50, 60, 70
Oct 7-9	National Mother/Daughter Clay Courts, Port St. Lucie, FL	
October 16-21	<i>ITF Super-Seniors World Team Championships, Antalya, Turkey</i>	
Oct 19-23	National Clay Courts, Palm Beach Gardens, FL	40, 50
Oct 24-28	National Mixed Hard Courts, Las Vegas, NV	75, 80
Oct 26-30	Barbara Cooper Cup, Winter Park, FL	35-85
Nov 4-6	National Mother/Daughter Hard Courts, Montgomery, TX	
Nov 13-17	National Husband/Wife Hard Courts, Palm Desert, CA	
Nov 27-Dec 2	National 30s Clay Courts, Ft. Lauderdale, FL	(singles, dbles, mixed)
Nov 28-Dec 4	National 40s Hard Courts, La Jolla, CA	(singles, dbles, mixed)

Bolded tournaments are Category 1

*Tournaments are Super Category II



NATIONAL SENIOR WOMEN'S TENNIS ASSOCIATION

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