

#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION

# **SENIOR NEWS**

## **Desert Circuit's Tradition Continues**

Mark Winters

"The weather was perfect and so was the vibe at the Plaza Senior Tournament," Kurt Haggstrom said. "The players were playing old friends, eating fresh tangerines, grapefruit and, of course, Ana's Rum Cakes all week long. The players' party

was very well attended.

We had over 120 players eating Mexican food

and dancing to music under

the stars. It is so much fun

fter the withering weather conditions faced by many across the country at the end of 2014 and the beginning of the new year, it would not be a Chamber of Commerce PR ploy to call attention to the fact that 2015 senior play began spectacularly in Southern California. Not only did the Desert Circuit feature sparkling competition, but, other than a spot of showers here and there, the conditions were worthy of weather channel praise.



Plaza Senior Tournament Men's 70 doubles final, Jim Quilty and Craig Edgecombe defeated Dean Corley and Mike Stewart.

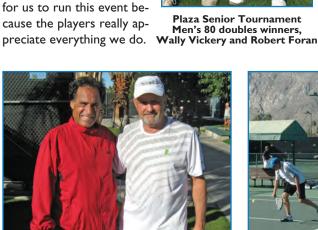
event. It is really inspiring to see guys that age continue to compete. I think most of us dream of being able to play tennis into our 90's.

"Our tournament was a huge success this year, and we want to thank our sponsors, Ken Agee of Union Bank, and Patty Service at Las Casuelas Terraza Restaurant.



Plaza Senior Tournament Men's 40 doubles final, Paul Wulf and Craig Horn defeated
Glenn Erickson and John Cockrell.

The four tournaments - Andy Scorteanu's 26th Monterey Country Club Senior Tennis Classic; Plaza Senior Tournament, presented by Ken Agee of Union Bank and organized by Kurt and Ana Haggstrom; Glenn Erickson's 33<sup>rd</sup> Palm Springs Racquet Club Senior Championships; and ASICS World Tennis Classic (Category II), staged by Ed Trost and Jayne Robertson - opened the tennis season like a late arriving, but much appreciated, holiday gift.



Plaza Senior Tournament Men's 65 doubles winners, Jim Upton and Michael Walters

"Entries were up by 10% and that always makes the draws so much better. This was also the first year since 2012 that we had enough entries to hold Men's 90's singles



Plaza Senior Tournament Men's 80 doubles winners.



Plaza Senior Tournament Men's 90 winner, Thomas Peek



Plaza Senior Tournament Men's 60 doubles winners, Michael Caro and Tom Olmstead



Plaza Senior Tournament 100 Mixed contestants, Juliana Copley and Dick Lake

Without their help we could not run the tournament the way we do."

Ed Trost was effusive about the tournament he organizes with Jayne Robertson.



ASICS World Tennis Classic Women's 40 winner, Mariko Atoji Photo Jayne Robertson

"This year's ASICS World Tennis Classic had 750 players from 28 states," he said "There was a large contingent from British Columbia, and a smattering of other foreign players. The competition is arguably the best of any tournament outside of the Category I's.

"For the first time, a Category I (Gold ball event) was held in the 70 Mixed, joining in the 60 and 50 Mixed. As a result, the play and keen competition rose to another level with a number of perennial high-seeded players, in their respective events, entering the fray. But, it's not always about being the best in a doubles event that matters. The key is how well a team plays together.



ASICS World Tennis Classic Women's 45 winner, Tracy Houk Photo Jayne Robertson

dministrative change can bring about adjustments that make a once well-traveled road challenging to negotiate. Fortunately for the Southern California Tennis Association (SCTA), the latest reorganization promises to be Diamond Lane smooth.

In 2009, William (Bill) J. Kellogg stepped in and William (Bill) Rombeau stepped down as President of the SCTA. Two years

"In the 70 Mixed, Charlie Hoeveler and Linda Bucklin were the winners in three sets. Tom Rettenmaier and Jackie Heston, the finalists in last year's 60 Mixed defeated the top seeds, Geoff Cykman and Tina Karwasky for the 2015 title. Patrick Rea and Jodi Neuman-Rea, the husband and wife team who dropped a three set 50 Mixed decision, in the final a year ago, were victorious, in three sets, over defending champions, Mike Fedderly and Tracy Worley-Hagen.

"Besides the gold and silver balls that were presented to the winners and finalists in each age category, the women received bouquets of flowers, and along with the men, were given Tifosi sunglasses and ASICS apparel."



ASICS World Tennis Classic 60 Mixed winners, Jackie Heston and Tom Rettenmaier Photo Jayne Robertson

Trost added, "Over 250 players and their guests had a great time at the Italian buffet dinner banquet. A DJ helped everyone unwind after a tough week of tennis.

"There were several new players who made their mark in their respective divisions and, despite two days of rain, the competition was fierce. Some players had to endure playing four or more sets, which was a physical test of strength and endurance, to make up for the rain delays.

"Each year, it seems that a number of



ASICS World Tennis Classic Men's 75 winner, Bill Cover with Tournament Director, Ed Trost Photo Jayne Robertson

players reconnect with other competitors who they had lost contact with over the years. It's always great for them and for the tournament to bring everyone together in

an atmosphere of competition and camaraderie."

In conclusion, Trost said, "The title sponsor, ASICS, had a huge presence at the tournament. All the winners and finalist received beautifully embroidered ASICS apparel. Other major sponsors were Eisenhower Desert Orthopedic Center, Eisenhower Medical Center, Tennis View Magazine, Tifosi Optics and Reed's Ginger Brew."



John Powless, who represents ASICS, was a Men's 80 doubles finalist with Richard (Dick) Doss. Photo Jayne Robertson

# Kellogg Leading SCTA Again

later, he became a member of the USTA Board of Directors, and Gregory (Greg) Hickey became the leader of the best of the USTA sections. After having provided a solid looking to the future direction, Hickey has decided to pursue other tennis interests, and Kellogg will again take the helm at the SCTA Annual Meeting, which will take place on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Straus Clubhouse

(Los Angeles Tennis Center-UCLA).

Almost any mention of the Kellogg name, in a tennis setting, will elicit "La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club" (LJB&TC) as a first response. The La Jolla Beach & Yacht Club originally opened in 1927. Frederick William Kellogg (aka FW Kellogg) purchased the facility in August, 1935. Since that time, a member of the family has been providing

direction for the award winning tennis resort now known as the LJB&TC. Today, Bill Kellogg, a fourth generation member of his family to direct the club, serves as President.

He has also made the annual Pacific Coast Doubles Championships in March. National Women's 50-90 Hard Court Championships, held at the facility every May, and the National Men & Women's 40 Hard Court Championships, along with the Father & Son and Grandfather & Grandson Championships that take place in December, exemplary tennis events. Typical of the ever-modest Kellogg, whenever praise is offered, he will quickly recognize all those in San Diego who played roles in successful endeavors such as the staging of the US-Great Britain Davis Cup tie at Petco Park last February, the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Tennis Federation Seniors World Team & Individual Championships in 2012 and the US-Italy Fed Cup Final in 2010.



Bill Kellogg with former Italian tennis stars, Lea Pericoli and Nicola Pietrangeli, at US-Italy Fed Cup final in San Diego Photo Mark Winters

For most, these credentials would be enough to earn an individual "All-Star" status, but for Kellogg, the story isn't complete until his on court talent is added to his resume. Currently, an outstanding Men's 60, as well as Father & Daughter, competitor, he and John Holladay were Men's 55 finalists at the ITF Individual Championships in 2012.

Becoming SCTA President again, Kellogg noted, "The landscape has changed dramatically since I last took on this challenge.

- We lost our wonderful, long-time Executive Director, Henry Talbert.
- We no longer own and operate a protournament.
- We are in a great financial position as a result of selling the tournament.
- We created an active committee structure.



**Bill Kellogg** Photo cameraworkusa

- We changed our bylaws adding term-limits and reducing the size of the Board of Directors.
- We now have the ability to meet via teleconference, which has made it easier for people from all over the section to take an active role.
- We have discovered some very talented and committed people who are willing to support the SCTA with energy and enthusiasm.
- The rules for Junior Tennis competition have changed noticeably.

The introduction of ROG (Red, Orange, Green) tennis for the junior circuit; a brand new competitive structure; and new people on the Junior Tennis Council have clearly "rocked the boat". It is now up to us to make it all work.

 Traditional tournament participation numbers are down but League play and NTRP events are growing."

As far as his initial focus, Kellogg said, "The SCTA has been working hard on the development of an updated Strategic Plan. The main elements of that plan contain a great blueprint for the next several years. Generally speaking, here are the elements of that plan:

- (I) We need to create and manage a corps of volunteers that can help us carry out the SCTA's mission.
- (2) We need to take a hard look at our funding and resources to make sure they support the new strategic plan.
- (3) We need to make better use of social media and the internet as an engine for generating more interest in tennis.
- (4) We need to engage and partner with our organizational members

to change the face of tennis and make it more welcoming.

- (5) We need to improve the youth development pathway to bring youngsters into the sport and keep them engaged, going forward.
- (6) We need to re-evaluate our traditional formats for Adult competition. It is becoming clear that we need to offer events that take less time, offer more play opportunities and that happen in a more predictable time frame.

(7) We need to take a hard look at the SCTA's home. Changes are happening on the UCLA campus where the office is based. Our lease has several decision points coming up. The staff is expanding but our allocated space on campus is shrinking.

It would be great to have a facility under our control that could handle large activities, such as the junior sectionals, pro events and possibly League and intercollegiate competitions. It is important for the association to take a look ahead and see what opportunities exist to help us better achieve our mission."

Addressing what he would like to accomplish, Kellogg said, "The most important thing we can do, going forward, is to engage the Board of Directors and staff in fulfilling our mission. All of the Strategic Plan objectives need attention so I hope we will be able to make progress in each of those areas. Figuring out the long-term answer to our facilities and the location of the SCTA offices would be a great legacy to leave behind."

In closing, Kellogg stressed, "The SCTA is here to serve. Tennis has the best chance of flourishing in Southern California if we each do our part to support the mission. It is my hope that our members will become actively engaged in promoting our sport and helping it grow in popularity."



Bill Kellogg and John Holladay
Photo cameraworkusa

## 2014 Senior Grand Prix Masters Championships

Madeline Segura

ast December marked the 32<sup>nd</sup> year of the Senior Grand Prix Masters Championships, and as always, there was strong competition on the courts, and good times after the matches. Morgan Run Club & Resort, again, graciously hosted the event. The facility was very festive with the lighting of the Christmas tree, old-fashioned carolers and a reception on Friday at dusk. Many of the players enjoyed that prelude to the tournament banquet, which was a great evening of friendship and the inevitable hilarious tennis stories.

Though it is March, it's not too early to start collecting points in an effort to



Senior Grand Prix Masters Championships Players' Party

qualify for the Senior Grand Prix Masters Championships coming up in December. The new season began November 1, 2014 and concludes on October 31, 2015. Go to www.scta.usta.com and select the category

Adults. From there scroll down the menu, and select "Info for Players." Find the Grand Prix rules, requirements and point breakdowns. Then select "Rankings/Player Records" where current seeding lists and Grand Prix point standings can be found.

It's fun to keep track of your success as the year progresses. The first set of points for the 2015 race have been posted, and they are updated monthly.

Everyone involved in staging the Senior Grand Prix Masters Championships is looking forward to seeing all the committed competitors at the next spectacular tournament presented at Morgan Run Club & Resort.

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Senior Grand Prix Masters Championships



James Dao d. David Brummitt 6-4, 6-0



MEN'S 50 Thomas Schlack d. Rob Horsch 5-7, 6-3, 6-2



MEN'S 50 DOUBLES
David Porte/Schlack d. Curtis Cochran/
Glen Teixeira
6-4, 6-1



MEN'S 55 Toby Crabel d. Teixeira 6-2, 6-2



Angel Lopez/Paul Press d. Jerry Naumann/ Fritz Ofner 6-1, 6-1



MEN'S 60 Larry Loeb d. Richard Hills 6-4, 6-3



MEN'S 65 Logan Jenkins d. Mario Cernousek 6-3, 7-6



MEN'S 65 DOUBLES
Dennis Bowers/Jess Torres d. Patrick
Dougherty/Bill Porter
6-1, 6-4



MEN'S 70 Karel Placek d. David Dollins 6-2, 6-4



MEN'S 75 Art Wahl d. Robert Jones 7-6, 6-2



MEN'S 75 DOUBLES Jones/Wahl d. Steve Drummy/ Jerry Headley 6-1, 6-1



MEN'S 80 Saul Snyder d. John McCaull 7-5, 6-3



MEN'S 80 DOUBLES Richard Haskell/Chuck Nelson d. Donald Neuman/Snyder 2-6, 6-4, 6-3



MEN'S 85 Wally Vickery d. Marvin Maxwell 6-3, 6-3

# Springs Country Club Hosting National Father & Daughter, Mother & Son

he Springs Country Club, a thriving resort in Rancho Mirage, will host the National Father & Daughter and Mother & Son Hard Court Championships, May 8-10. Steve Solomon and Sheryl Herschman are organizing the tournament that was formerly played at the Barnes Tennis Center, in San Diego, but is now being staged at a scenic desert location.

Solomon, the founder and director of the most successful doubles event in the world, the Tennis Channel



National Husband & Wife Combined 100, 120 & 140 Grass Court Championships,

and Herschman, who organizes the highly praised Tahoe Classic summer event, as well as the Women's 60 NTRP "Queen of the Court" tournament in Palm Springs, will combine their tennis tournament arranging skills as co-director of the championships. They have a reputation for producing tennis events that provided participants with five-star hospitality and a perfect competi-

tive setting. For more information, contact Sheryl Herschman at (760) 778-6585.

## In Memoriam

#### **Mary Brymer**

Mary Brymer was a gamer. She was a presence in the dedicated coaching of her husband, Chuck, at the Woodbridge Tennis Academy, and the talent development of Gage, her son who is a UCLA sophomore. An incredibly nice and thoughtful individual, she passed away on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Whitney Reed**

Whitney Reed gained more attention for his unorthodox training methods and strokes than he did for the fact that he was the US No. I in 1961 and was a member of

the winning US Davis Cup team in 1958. He also claimed the NCAA singles title while playing at San Jose State in 1959. Though born in Northern California, Reed played regularly in the section throughout his career. In the process, he created an image that displayed an individual that fully appreciated life and all that it involved. When he died in early January, the game lost one of its all-time characters. As Forrest Stewart, who played against him said, "One of the great guys of our tennis era passed away. He beat virtually everyone. He was one of a kind and we all loved him."

#### **UCLA**

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## **National & Sectional Tournaments**

Tennis Channel National Husband & Wife Combined 100, 120 & 140 Grass Court Championships (Category I)

March 8-14

Tournament ID: 651734315

Contact: Steve Solomon - (760) 325-8084

129th Southern California Sectional Championships (MW 30-60 & Family Divisions)

March 21-22, 26-29

Tournament ID: 651719115

Contact: Annette Buck - (310) 208-3838 Ext. 224

129th Southern California Sectional Championships (MW 65-90)

March 23-28

Tournament ID: 651752415

Contact: Annette Buck - (310) 208-3838 Ext. 224

Tennis Channel National Men's 60 Hard Court Championships (Category I)

April 13-19

Tournament ID: 651701915

Contact: Steve Solomon - (760) 325-8084

National Women's 50-90 Hard Court Championships (Category I)

May 11-17

Tournament ID: 651805015

Contact: William (Bill) Kellogg - (858) 454-6500

Verne Hughes Memorial National Men's 75-90 Hard Court Championships (Category I)

May 17-23

Tournament ID: 650003115

Contact: Ned Buckman - (949) 525-9290