



# Central Tennis Club

## Fall Newsletter - 2009

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There is a frost in the air, the flowers in the garden are well past their prime and quickly succumbing to the cold weather and the leaves on the trees are turning their colours to yellows, oranges and crimson reds. All signs of the fall season and unfortunately the end of another summer season on the courts. The net will be taken down, the racquet placed carefully away in its protective cover and the balls stowed in the bag.

The 2009 tennis season comes to a close.

It has been an entertaining year. The Central Tennis Club has provided organized events for both adults and juniors including;

Daytime Programs; Monday Morning Round Robin and Friday Morning House League

Evening Competitive Team play in the InterCounty Tennis Assoc

Daytime Women's InterCounty and Toronto Ladies League

Friday Night House League

Men's and Women's Ladder

Several evening socials

Several Tournaments culminating in the September Club Championships

Junior Program

Even though it is the end of the current season we are actively planning for the next. And your input is both welcomed and encouraged. We would like to have your input into our programs, in particular your thoughts on how we can improve or what new ideas or programs you might like to see. If you have any comments please forward them to [info@centraltennisclub.com](mailto:info@centraltennisclub.com) or come to the Annual General Meeting to be held at Montgomery's Inn on November 24<sup>th</sup> commencing at 8:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you and hearing your ideas on how we can make our tennis club better and stronger.

This newsletter presents a summary of the year's events from each of the executive members along with their thoughts and reflections. Please read them and if you have any questions or suggestions please bring them forward. We are always interested in hearing from our members.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Margaret James (info@centraltennisclub.com)

The Central Tennis Club has had a very successful 2009 season with a variety of planned activities to meet the tennis needs of our members. Although the weather was not the best for cottagers, apart from a few rainouts the cooler temperatures were ideal for energetic tennis.

We were saddened by the passing of Peter Lubbe and Fritz Grosskopf at the beginning of our season. Fritz was President from 1985-87. Peter was President from 1988 to 1989, a team captain for a number of years and a valued member of our Club. They are both certainly missed.

We experienced some difficulties during the City strike, particularly with regards to lighting. Our Facilities Director, Roger Dawson, kept in close contact with the City and our lighting problems were addressed at the earliest possible time once the strike was over. Roger is also talking with the City to explore the possibility of rebuilding the courts base prior to resurfacing which is planned for the 2011 season. Recurrent cracks in our courts are believed to result from poor drainage in the base of the courts. We are hoping that the City will consider redoing the base of our courts. Discussions continue.

Your Executive have been dedicated to ensuring that the year went smoothly and that everyone had the opportunity to participate in which ever activity they chose.

The Executive could not be as successful without the help of many volunteers who contribute so selflessly to our club. We are very fortunate to have such involved members who take such pride in their club.



We have two executive members retiring this year. Anyone interested in the Juniors Director or Membership Director positions please contact Mary Angelson. **Dan Dupak** has skillfully moved us into the twenty-first century with on line registration and computerized lists for volunteers, teams and activities. He has streamlined the membership directorship and executed his role in an efficient manner. **Elena Giudici** has served as the Junior Director, coordinating with Stan to run a very successful junior program. She supported the junior team, spring and fall lessons and a number of junior social activities. Thank you Elena for all your support for our juniors.

Thank you to the executive members who have agreed to serve for another year: **Margaret James, Mary Angelson, Derek Johnston, Dino Raponi, Ron Gillis, Christine Tomchak, Gail Andrews, Marion Habal, Tamara Colbourne, Roger Dawson and Maria Szykowski.**

This is my first year as President, a role which was very easy to perform since my executive members all carried out their portfolio duties with little or no direction required and Mary was always available for consultation when necessary as well as gently reminding me of what needed to be done next.

The club offers so much to our members. Please consider joining the Executive to give a little back.

**Stan Palmateer** has been our tireless pro for 22 years. We can always rely on Stan to give excellent instruction, assist with team issues, help with socials and tournaments and assist our Junior Director as well as part-time handyman. Thank you Stan.

Thank you to **Bonnie Elms** who has, been a wonderful Clubhouse Manager. Your efforts in keeping us well supplied, neat and clean are appreciated. We are searching for a replacement or several people to take over these tasks that Bonnie has competently completed for the past years.

**Cecilia Bardsley and Helen Walsh** have been responsible for the well maintained garden at the clubhouse. Thanks Helen and Cecilia for planting, weeding and looking after our garden. Also thanks to **Kiri Varatharajan** for maintaining our wonderful website, a great source of information for both members and non-members.

Please mark **OCT. 31<sup>st</sup>** on your calendar to help us close up the facilities. There is lots to be done and “many hands make light work”.

One member requested that the nets stayed up into November. Although this was feasible in terms of our permit, the Executive decided that plans as outlined in the calendar would continue for this year. Provided there are volunteers to take the nets down in the cold we will consider a later closing date for next season.

Thanks to all of our members for making this an enjoyable year at Central. Don't forget that the lights will be on in the evenings and so if the weather is good, we hope to see you still coming out.



Our **Annual General Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, **November 24** at 8 pm at Montgomery's Inn. Please join us to make decisions for next season and support your executive. If there are any agenda items you wish to include, please email [mebjames@rogers.com] or call me [416-207-0385].

## STAN'S 24 HOUR TENNIS MARATHON

by Marisa DeFrancesco

Thank you  
Thank you for Stan's 20<sup>th</sup>!!!



Though the weather was hot and summery, Stan made it feel a lot like Christmas on August 22 to 23 at Mimico – there was a lot of good will, peace and joy in the world . . . and a lot of generous giving, too!

Together, the tennis clubs of Central, Mimico and Laura Hill with generous other friends raised \$5444 at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual 24 hour Tennis Marathon for The Heart and Stroke Foundation. This is the best total ever!! Thank you to everyone who came out to play, to donate and support Stan and this charity. We also thank Stan for this wonderful fundraising idea and community event that has endured and in fact grown for two decades and for playing fantastic tennis throughout every marathon! The on-line donations ([www.fitforheart.ca](http://www.fitforheart.ca)) competed over \$550, T-shirt sales about \$450 and about \$850 was collected from the raffle prizes with the rest collected by keen participants booked to play tennis with Stan and by others who came to watch and say hello. Once again, the tough 4 am to 6 am time slot was played by Craig Cooper, Matt Shields, and Adam Lis. Stan is so grateful for the great level of energy and laughs given to him during that time period.

Thank you to Game Set Match and HEAD for providing great demo racquets during the event. Thanks also to Game Set Match, Tony Caputo, Lisa Laudenbach of West 39 Bistro, Marisa and Stan for offering unique raffle prizes. Winner of the much coveted 2010 Central membership was Dahlia Barber!!! Allan Veitch and Caroline Bachand won two free racquet stringing from Game Set Match, Irene Bachand won two free racquet stringing from Stan, and Craig Cooper won the priceless prize of a children's balloon party by Stan.

Thank you to Mark Curtis, our "official" photographer of the event and with over 500 photos to review, we will soon share the best of the bunch with you via our Mimico website, Central website and Facebook.

Thank you also to Mark Curtis, Stephen Hayden and Jim Callan for great marathon music and especially Stuart Henderson and Ed Hsing for a fun and impromptu concert Saturday evening with the use of bongo drums, a ukulele and maracas! We'll have to invite them back as they are great fun!

Elf-like helpers in and around the Mimico kitchen included Jennifer Conron, Michele Wilson, Roma Yaschyshyn, Ted Lis, Deb Smith, Dahlia Barber, Simon Barber and Michael Parsonnage. Thank you for all your smiles and help. IGA at Thorncrest Plaza generously provided the burgers and buns.

It is the most wonderful time of the year! Thank you !!!!

- Marisa DeFrancesco  
Stan's marathon helper and biggest fan!



## ICTA REPORT

Derek Johnston

### ADULT TEAMS

The Central Tennis Club fielded a Majors and a B Team in the Inter-County Tennis Ladies League, a Ladies B and a C Team in the Toronto Ladies League and four mixed teams that compete in the evening Inter-County Tennis Association. Our Adult Team results were as follows:

In the **Inter-County Mixed League**, our A team finished 6<sup>th</sup> out of 8 teams; our B1 team improved to 5<sup>th</sup> of 8, and our B2 team finished 8<sup>th</sup> of 8; and our C team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in a group of 5 teams.

Of our **Daytime Teams**, in the **Toronto Ladies Tennis League**, which plays in May and June, our Toronto Ladies B team finished 1<sup>st</sup> of 8 teams in the highest B division, and our Toronto Ladies C team was 7<sup>th</sup> of 8 teams in the most challenging C division.

Our newly-promoted **Inter-County Ladies Majors finished 5<sup>th</sup> of 6 teams, and the Inter-County Ladies B team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> of 8 terms** – a fine result in the first year of promotion to this level.

With some uncooperative weather and the strike by City employees the team captains had to reschedule many rained-out matches from May until August. Thanks to team captains Tracy Jones, Gail Andrews, Cathy Cruikshank, Heather Cruikshank, Liz Stephens, Dan Dupak, Andrew Pilacinski and Charlie Markovich, and to several co-captains, for handling this so effectively and without much disruption to court availability for casual play.

**TENNIS BALL ORDERS:** A bonus for buying tennis balls through the club!

The Club and individual members ordered enough cases of balls this year (at a discount price) to earn us points for lots of merchandise for prizes at tournaments and other events. As a bonus our Club was given 2 brand new Wilson tennis racquets, because we bought so many cases of Wilson tennis balls.

A draw for the racquets was held at the Wimbledon Social/Round Robin. The draw was for members who had bought at least half a case of Wilson US Open tennis balls through the Club. The lucky winners were Isidro Ambelez and Alastair Currie.

We want to encourage more people to buy balls through the Club in future because the more balls we buy the more merchandise we get for prizes, which saves money and helps us to keep the Club fees low!



## TOURNAMENTS

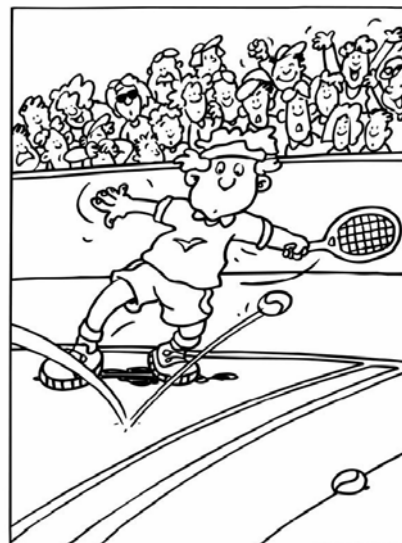
Gail Andrews (tournaments@centraltennisclub.com)

### CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

The Club Championship Semi-Finals were played on Saturday September 12<sup>th</sup> and the finals on Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup>. It was wonderful for everyone who played to meet new members of the club and to watch exciting tennis matches as well as play competitively. What a bonus, two weeks without rain. We picked the best two weeks of the summer for our tournament.

I had a lot of help in making our Club Tournament a success. I would especially like to thank Anna Lis, Stan Palmateer and Jim Callan for their help in scheduling matches and Marisa DeFrancesco for bringing us cookies and munchies during the two weeks of the tournament and for the wonderful lunch she put out for the semi-finals and the finals.

The winners and finalists are pictured as follows:



#### Ladies Doubles

Winner – Anna Lis/ Caroline Wharton  
Finalists – Lisa Whyat/Elaine Davies



#### Men's Doubles

Winner – Danny Syzak/Charlie Markovich  
Finalists – Andy Pilacinski/Craig Cooper



#### Mixed Doubles

Winner – Marisa DeFrancesco/  
Craig Cooper  
Finalists – Anna and Ted Lis



**Men's Singles**  
Winner – Danny Syczak  
Finalist – Charlie Markovich



**Consolation Ladies Doubles**  
Winner – Connie Dupak/Brittany Dupak  
Finalists – Mary Angelson/Margaret James



**Consolation Men's Doubles**  
Winner – Dan Dupak/Djordje Radulj  
Finalists – David Harris/Justin Slevin



**Consolation Men's Singles**  
Winner – Fred Florence  
Finalist – Rob Michelowicz

**Consolation Mixed Doubles**  
Winner – Liz Morgan/ Ted Stitski  
Finalists – Joanne & Tom Voltis



**Championship Day Participants**

## DAYTIME ACTIVITIES

Marion Habal (dayprograms@centraltennisclub.com)

Despite the cool and rainy spring/ summer everyone has complained about, our daytime tennis was not affected. There were no rain-outs for either the Monday Morning Round Robins nor the Friday Morning House League as to date. However the total number of usual members coming out from year to year has declined slightly. Nevertheless there has been a lot of good tennis being played both on Monday mornings and Friday Morning House League. Monday mornings have provided ample playing time for everyone and Friday House League continues to be at a fun and competitive level. Both will continue until the Thanksgiving weekend. Thereafter different members get together informally on the same days in order to continue playing until the nets get taken down.

## JUNIOR PROGRAM

Elena Giudici (juniors@centraltennisclub.com)

It was another successful year for the Junior Program at CTC, with spring, summer and fall clinics at capacity. The socials and Club Championships were fun and competitive, and a dedicated Junior Team.

In April we had our Junior Opening day, believe it or not it was a very hot spring day, which may have accounted for the low attendance by the juniors, but those who did attend were a very enthusiastic bunch. In May, we held our Family Round Robin, only 10 juniors in attendance with their family members. However, a good time was still had by all. We may have to rethink this event, perhaps only 2 hours instead of the 3 hours allotted. In June, the juniors had their own Wimbledon social. This year it fell on Father's Day, which may have accounted for the low turnout, but those who were there made the best of it!

The Junior Club Championship was exciting as always. The weekend of September 19-20<sup>th</sup> turned out to be two perfect days for tennis, food, fun and games. Stan kept the Juniors busy with lots of tennis and entertainment. Once again this year we had one junior reign over 2 age groups, with Stefano Benedetti winning both the Under15 and Under18 Championship. The Under12 Champion was Tommy Hickey. Great work Juniors!



U12 Winner – Tommy Hickey  
U15 and U18 Winner – Stefano Benedetti

Of course, none of this would be possible, or as much fun, if it were not for the leadership of Stan Palmateer. As per usual, his spring, summer and fall clinics at Central kept him very busy. All clinics were filled to capacity involving over 80 Juniors. This represents more than over half of our Juniors involved in lessons. Thanks to Stan for his dedication to our Club's Juniors throughout the tennis season at Central.

The Junior Intercounty Team was very busy practicing every Friday with Stan, they were Very competitive in their division ending up 2<sup>nd</sup> in the "Boys Major West" division. Thanks to our Captain Brian Neipage for his leadership.



## SOCIAL EVENTS

Ron Gillis (socials@centraltennisclub.com)

I am now completing my first term as Social Director for Central Tennis Club. We have had an interesting year and generally our events came off better than expected in spite of the challenges presented by the weather.

We offered a Cardio Tennis Program, our Traditional Club Opening and Tournament, Men's Night and Ladies Night, Central Tennis Club Box Suite at the Rexall Centre on top of our Regular Socials.

I had an increase in budget this year and have endeavored to stay within the new ceiling. Our Club Tournament this year featured Live Entertainment by Jazz Sensation Matt Pines a member of Central Tennis Club. Those in attendance danced up a storm, sang and listened throughout the afternoon and early evening.

Matt Pines can be approached for intimate private gatherings such as birthdays, corporate functions, cocktail parties, etc. For more information you can reach Matt at 416-234-5500 or [mattpines@primus.ca](mailto:mattpines@primus.ca).



Tom Voltsis, Matt Pines and Bonnie Elms

You may have noticed an increase of private sponsorships re: Leon A Bacardi, Brown's Sports, etc in our events. This has been well received by our membership and I will continue to incorporate them. People interested in supporting our events should contact me in order to set dates. Our events have been largely successful due to the patronage of our sponsors and the assistance of members who volunteered their time and services. I thank them all equally and encourage the club membership to patronize our sponsors.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Annual General Meeting. I would like to encourage comments, criticisms and suggestions about our events. These may be submitted in writing ideally in advance of the meeting date. This will help in planning for more exciting events next season. I look forward to seeing you on the courts!

## **FRIDAY NIGHT MIXED HOUSE LEAGUE**

Maria Szykowski (evehl@centraltennisclub.com)

Another successful season has come to an end. We had over 90 members participating on 6 teams, 56 regular players and 37 on a sub list.

The success of the FNHL depends on the dedication of team captains, who make sure the games can go on every Friday and commitments of the team members. Special thanks to this years captains, Liz Morgan, Jack Dempsey, Evita Sanders, Matt Pines and Jane Pitchford-Bartsch and also to all FNHL players showing up to play, sometimes to be rained-out shortly after.

The winning team was Team 6 captained by Matt Pines with Beverly Diaz, Mary Howes, Tom Hamilton, Helen Walsh, Ken Chambers, Pat Lund, Jim Redekop, Pat Simon and Carl Acco. A very close runner up was Team 2 captained by Jane Pitchford-Bartsch with Ted Scheniman, Elsa Marco, Juan Rios, Sharon Simard, Michael James, Bill Tracz, Orsolya Heim, Joseph O'Toole, Catherine Wolf-Becker and John Becker. Congratulations!

If you would like to volunteer to be a team captain please indicate so on your 2010 registration form. See you again in 2010

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Dan Dupak (dandupak@yahoo.ca)

Membership registration for 2010 will commence February 2010. At that time, you should receive an e-mail providing you with the details on registering for the coming 2010 season. Please ensure that we have your correct e-mail address. If you have changed your e-mail address, please notify the CTC Registration Desk at [dandupak@yahoo.ca](mailto:dandupak@yahoo.ca).

Those individuals who do not have e-mail will receive their registration through a Canada Post mailing in late January. Look for this package and if not received by February 1<sup>st</sup>, please contact Dan. The closing date for returning members will be February 28th. Past that time, vacancies will be filled from the waiting list. The current waiting list is over 60 people. We have a lot of eager players waiting to join so you must get your registration in promptly to ensure keeping your membership.

## MEMBER AT LARGE

Dino Raponi ([projects@centraltennisclub.com](mailto:projects@centraltennisclub.com))

As Member at Large, my responsibilities this year were in a supportive nature to the other portfolios and other Club members. I tried to help where I was needed. I captained the Friday morning House League and tried to contribute in the administrative area of our Club. I tried to facilitate the various duties of the Club by being receptive to any concerns brought forward by Club members. I continue to facilitate these concerns and urge Club members to come out & help in our yearly closing on Oct. 31st, at 9:30 am.

## FACILITIES

Roger Dawson ([facilities@centraltennis.com](mailto:facilities@centraltennis.com))

2009 was one of the most dysfunctional openings for CTC as turning on the water was delayed due to a cracked pipe, the power was delayed due to a transformer problem and the phone was out due to a connection problem in the adjacent skating rink. However all the services were ready just in time for Bonnie and her helpers to get the clubhouse bright and polished for opening day.

Nets & Windscreens were delayed one week due to poor weather but the next weekend 35 members and 2 juniors showed up to help.

Mother nature blessed us with abundant rain so the landscaping done by Cecilia Bardsley and Helen Walsh remained lush and green.

Flag stones were installed underneath both bicycle racks so members are not parking their bike in a weed patch.

A thank you to Joe Szamosi for moving the bulletin boards light switch from Stan's room to the other storage room.

The city's access to the courts were improved by rerouting the telephone wire from the east of the courts to the west side and the entrance to the courts were built up using gravel and flag stones.

Please make a note on your calendar for Saturday October 31st 9:30 – 12:00 pm to help close the club.

If you can bring a ladder and/or side cutters to cut the ties the screens will come down quickly. Please call 416-236-1493 or email [rdawson@mastercom.com](mailto:rdawson@mastercom.com) if you know you can definitely help on that day or if you have any suggestions or questions.



**It's over!**