

April 1, 2007

Volume 1, Issue 3

# Passing Shots

Cupertino Tennis Club Newsletter

Did you know that the 2006 Cupertino Summer NTRP Classic won **Tournament of the Year** in the 3.0, 3.5 and 4.0 categories?

## My Spin On Things by Bob McCord, President

There is occasional confusion about two entities – the Cupertino Sports Center and the Cupertino Tennis Club. Why are there two and why do we need to join both? I wasn't around when the CTC was formed but since the title of this column is "My Spin On Things" allow me some editorial latitude and guesswork.

Like other cities, Cupertino provides recreational facilities for its residents. The Sports Center is one such facility and although tennis courts are a big

part, it is not just about tennis. There is also the Teen Center, handball, racquetball, table tennis, workout equipment, classes, etc. So generally speaking the CSC is the facility.

Having a facility is a good thing but if you want to promote a particular activity there needs to be some organization. If there's an organization, there are people to run it. And if the city provides the organization there are people who need to be paid – or you need volunteers. Remember the old TV commercial for Life

breakfast cereal? "**I know, let's let Mikey do it!**" Tah dah – the Cupertino Tennis Club.

I hope you are all enjoying the new monthly newsletter. Communication is important and hopefully you don't think of it as more spam in your email box. The newsletter is for you and your suggestions are always welcome and encouraged.

Play well and gave fun.  
*Bob McCord*

## Money... Money... Money..... **Money** .....by Dennis Campbell, Treasurer

Your CTC Board approved the 2007 budget at the 3/8/07 meeting. Projected income is \$13,000; made up of dues at \$5,500 and Cupertino Classic Tournament income

at \$7,500. Total expenses are projected at \$14,500, which includes utilizing some of last years' reserves to continue "giving back" to members and the community.

The major expenses

are Cupertino Classic \$6,200, the 10K Smiles donation \$1,500, USTA/Interclub \$3,700, socials \$1,400, ladder prizes \$450, and \$ 1,250 for all other expenses.

If you would like a copy of the entire budget, you

may request it via the CTC email address:  
[Treasurer@Cupertinotennisclub.org](mailto:Treasurer@Cupertinotennisclub.org).

*Dennis Campbell*

We're still **In The (USTA) Game** and **Moving On**

By .....Bob Larocca, USTA coordinator

**Next Stop: Seniors in Fresno April 20-22**

Three of our winter league teams won their championships and will be moving on the District Playoffs in April.....

Ron Lee's Senior 4.0 team (co-captain Arthur Yu) cruised through their playoffs without losing an individual match. Ron has very kindly taken the time to write a wonderful story detailing the road to Fresno, which you can read starting on page 4. Congratulations to Ron and all of the 4.0 players!

Fred Tierney's Senior 3.5 team (co-captains Mark Bailey and Karl Gong) will be joining Ron's team at the Fresno Districts. Fred's team edged a fellow CTC team led by George Bassi on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to qualify. Fred's team won all three matches, but they all went into third sets that could have gone either way. Being in a league that received a wildcard, Fred's team earned their Fresno entry after winning that match. The official league championship against AVAC was held two week later, with Fred's team winning 2-1. Congratulations to both 3.5 Senior teams for an outstanding season.

**Next Stop: Mixed Doubles at Stanford April 27-29**

*A word to the wise  
..... "the next shot is  
more important than  
the last mistake."*  
Tom Veneziano, Tennis Pro

The 7.0 Mixed league ended the regular season with five teams tied with 10-3 records, two of them from CTC. Unfortunately, Bill Kahng's team lost the tiebreak and was declared the 5<sup>th</sup> place team based on individual matches won. Our other team, captained by Carol Nakao and Bob Larocca, did qualify for the playoffs and they made the most of that opportunity.

Los Gatos hosted our team in the first round and things looked bleak from the outset. Cliff Nishimoto and Junko Ohoka were winning their match handily, but we lost the 1<sup>st</sup> set in the other two matches. Playing #1 doubles, Cindy Bjorkquist and Mark Bailey turned things around to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> set 7-5. They stayed hot in the 3<sup>rd</sup> set and ended up winning 6-2, giving Cupertino the 2-1 victory.

Courtside was the 2<sup>nd</sup> round opponent. Cliff and Junko played another strong match at #1 and defeated their opponents in straight sets. Cliff and Junko were 7-0 for the season. Courtside won the #2 doubles in straight sets, so once again Cindy and Mark were playing the deciding match. And, once again, they lost the first set and won the 2<sup>nd</sup> set at 7-5. They took a commanding 4-0 lead to start the 3<sup>rd</sup> set and held to win it 6-3.

Several of the 3.5 Senior men who will be going to Fresno will also be playing mixed the following weekend at Stanford: Terry Andreasen,. cont'd page 3

**Sports Center  
Shorts**

submitted by Colleen Ferris

**NEW:** A new pilates instructor has been hired to teach the Monday/Wednesday 10:30 – 11:30 classes

**FREE:** A free Latin Dance class April 1<sup>st</sup> at noon.

**NEW:** Latin Dance classes starting in April, Friday's at 10:45 AM



We're still **In The (USTA) Game ... cont'd**

Mark Bailey, Dennis Campbell, Karl Gong, Michael Harrison, Bob Larocca and Cliff Nishimoto are members of both league champions.

**Spring has Sprung!**

The Adult and Super Senior 65 seasons have kicked off. We have 15 teams and 213 individuals participating in these leagues this year.

**Fifty Mixed Play Starts April 30th**

NorCal has moved the start of the Fifty Mixed season up several weeks from last year's start. Teams are now being formed. It looks like we will have five teams:

- \* 6.0 captained by Diane Detig and Jack Benkual
- \* 7.0 captained by Irene Nishimoto
- \* 7.0 captained by Bob McCord and Dotti Rado
- \* 7.0 captained by ? (any volunteers?)
- \* 8.0 captained by Sarina Tafarella-Gonzales

If you are interested in playing and you need some help finding the right team, either sign up in the USTA Leagues binder at the Sports Center reception desk or contact the CTC Leagues Coordinator at

[MixedUSTA@Cupertinotennisclub.org](mailto:MixedUSTA@Cupertinotennisclub.org)

**EARTH DAY EVENTS**  
April 16 - 20

Recycle your old athletic shoes and help divert waste out of the landfill, and into reuse and responsible disposal.

It's a great chance to clean out the pile of worn out tennis shoes in the back of the closet.

See page 9 for details.

**ELECTRONIC WASTE RECYCLE**  
April 28 9am-4pm

See page 10 for details.



**Improving Your Skills ... submitted by Dana Gill, Lifetime Tennis**

**WOMEN'S TENNIS ACADEMY**

An innovative program designed to meet the goals of today's female tennis player.... weekday mornings.

**ADULT TENNIS BOOTCAMP**

A 2-3 day Fast Track approach to sharpen tennis skills. Weekday mornings and evenings in May.

**DISCOUNT PRIVATE LESSONS**

Save 40-70% off regular prices with a one of two private lesson promotions

**SPECIALTY GROUP CLASSES**

Improve a specific skill (forehand, backhand, serve, etc...) without paying private lesson prices.

Find out more about these and other programs, including **YOUTH TENNIS CAMPS** for children 4-15 years old, at the Lifetime Tennis Office (408-777-3169), the Cupertino Recreation Guide, or on our website ([www.lifetimetennis.com](http://www.lifetimetennis.com))

**UNBELIEVABLE.....**

## Cupertino Men's Senior 4.0 Team Defeats AVAC in the first playoff match 3-0!!

**WOW!** What a wild and wooly league playoff we had over the past couple of weeks. Not only did we beat the traditionally two toughest teams in the league, we won both at 3-0 and 3-0. Dave Scott, Courtside's captain, said this was the worst loss they have had since 2002 as all of our matches were won in 2 sets. As agreed by all, we wanted it more than they did and we played exactly that way ... a little luck goes along way too.

We went through the first hurdle by beating **AVAC** in the 1st playoff match. All of the teams were evenly matched with all players showing spurts of stardom. This was definitely a match that could have gone either way.

The score does not reflect the difficulty of the match Bud West and Bob Slavik won at 6-3, 6-4, in the #2 doubles spot. Those watching the match saw the benefit of a doubles team that has plenty of experience and knowledge playing together as partners, allowing them to create

intelligent plans and gamesmanship to overcome their opponents. This is how good doubles, at our level, should be played. They made it look easier than it was.

Arthur Yu and Chris Yasukawa played the #3 doubles. The book "Winning Ugly" could have been the script for this match. The 1<sup>st</sup> set went to Chris and Art 6-3. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> set, they may have fallen asleep for a few minutes (20 to be exact) and ended up losing 1-6. The 3<sup>rd</sup> set started out in sleepsville again with the first three games going 1-2 as Art was broken. At this point, I took a little walk wondering "now what"? When I returned, the score was 5-2, AVAC serving, but...Chris and Art were leading! AVAC held their serve and it was up to Chris to finish it. First two points, down 0-30; then a barrage of push and slice backhands, push serves, and of course, lobs by both and Chris and Art finally created a missed overhead on AVAC's part.

Finally, a 2 mph serve to the AVAC players' backhand that didn't come back over the net. Final score: 6-3. A great win considering they haven't played doubles together for over 15 years!

Since the #1 team was unaware that we had already won the match, AVAC's captain and I decided to let them keep banging their heads together in a hard-hitting match that took about 2.5 hours. Our #1 doubles team, Stu Whannel and Dave Clapper won the 1<sup>st</sup> set 6-3. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> set, Dave and Stu led with a service break but couldn't hold it; losing that set 5-7. The 3<sup>rd</sup> set was the barn burner. This set started out with impressive shot-making by Stu and Dave, forcing errors by AVAC. By the end of the set, AVAC had broken Dave to go up 5-4 and was now serving for the match. As for what happened next, a couple of AVAC players summed it up. "Stu made some fantastic shots and Dave was steady as a rock". We won that final set 7-5.

This entertaining account of the CTC Men's Sr. 4.0 "Road to Fresno" was written by the team's captain, Ron Lee.

Thanks for the inside look at what it takes to be winners!

**UNBELIEVABLE.....**

## Cupertino Men's Senior 4.0 Team Defeats Courtside in the second playoff match 3.0!!

**We move on - Courtside.**

Bud and Bob took on a couple of young whippersnappers, Ed Soria (7-0) and Barry Marsh (10-0) that were undefeated all season. In fact, Barry is 20-0 over the past two years. In the 1<sup>st</sup> set it looked as though Bud and Bob were on cruise control. Then, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> set, the bombs came blasting out. Barry was pounding his ground strokes while Bud was volleying them for winners. Soria was lobbing (lobbing?? Why would anyone even think of lobbing over the Twin Towers?) Bob was smoking the overheads.

But, it wasn't all peaches and cream. While I was watching the other matches, I checked the scoreboard and saw Bud and Bob DOWN 2-5 with Soria serving! At this point I decided it was a good time to go out and get a cup of coffee so I would have something to drink during the 3<sup>rd</sup> set. When I returned, with coffee in hand, I expected to see the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> set. I looked at the scoreboard and it said 5-5.

After two more breaks of

serve, they were in a tiebreaker. The tiebreaker was close but it sure was nice to see the last Courtside shot go long. A great comeback. A great 6-3,7-6 win.

Rudy Birnel and Peter Marrone played as though they both had dates right after the match. Rudy kept making their opponents constantly dig for balls with his "slice and dice" forehand and backhand.

**Cont'd page 5**





# UNBELIEVABLE..... the story continues

Cupertino Men's Senior 4.0 Defeats COURTSIDE 3.0 !!

Peter's backhand shots were done with pinpoint accuracy either down the line or dead center between the opponents. Rudy and Peter were returning everything that came to them. They were on and off the court in no time with a 6-2, 6-2 victory. After the match, what DID they do? Peter went home and Rudy went to another court to play more tennis. Great match guys.....

On to Chris Yasukawa and Dave Clapper. If you ever want to know what

it's like to play a match against a backboard, ask Chris and Dave. Courtside's Tony Kerin and Pat Esrey are two guys that look like pushovers but they are anything but. What Chris and Dave faced were two guys that could hit solid shots off both wings, deep lobs, good placement, solid volleys and overhands. As they say, "Too bad someone has to lose." On this day, I'm glad it was Courtside and not us. We enjoyed a nice win but maybe a little close? 7-6, 7-6

## NEXT STEP FRESNO

Although only 9 men played in the playoffs, it was the efforts of the entire team that got us to Fresno. Because there was a three-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, we had to count individual games won in order to officially finish in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. This position gave us the home court advantage for our first match and I believe it, also, played a significant part in our win over AVAC.

The District Playoffs in Fresno are scheduled for April 20 – 22. Check the CTC website for updates. [www.cupertinotennisclub.org](http://www.cupertinotennisclub.org)

What?????? Win MONEY just for having fun playing tennis with other CTC members?????? You bet! Check out the LADDERS program on page 7 and sign up.

We want to thank:

- Mike Azzopardi
- Rudy Birnel
- Tom Byler
- Dave Clapper
- Tony Fadelli
- Gerry Gin
- Sargon Issac
- Anand Jagannathan
- Bill LaBlanc
- Leo Levinson
- Bruce Marlowe
- Peter Marrone
- Bob Slavik
- Wayne Sparks
- Darwin Throne
- Bud West
- Stu Whannel
- Chris Yasukawa
- Art Yu, and
- Marty Zimmerman

for being an outstanding team and putting us in the position we are today. Ron Lee, captain Arthur Yu, co-captain



## Serving It Up (In Honor of Earth Day) by Dotti Rado

What better way to celebrate Earth Day (you did read about the Earth Day Events on page 3, didn't you?) than with a salad with organic greens, herbs and edible flowers?

- 1 lb. lettuces
- Handful of gently chopped arugula
- Handful of gently chopped flat-leaf parsley
- Handful of gently chopped cilantro
- Small handful of gently chopped spearmint
- Handful of Johnny-Jump\_ups or other pansies
- Extra-virgin Olive Oil
- Balsamic vinegar
- Salt and fresh-ground pepper

Toss greens together with fresh herbs. Drizzle with a couple of Tbsp. olive oil and a Tbsp. vinegar. Toss with salt & pepper. Taste. Add more oil, vinegar and/or salt and pepper if needed. Sprinkle with edible flowers.

Miss 'Meg will be back next month with more Interclub Ladies' recipes.



# The **MATCH MAKER**

Page 6 of 10

## **Marie Shrodes**

3.5 F/50+  
Doubles/Mixed/social match Singles  
Evenings/weekends  
Practice/drills/competition  
[mshrodes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mshrodes@sbcglobal.net)

## **Al Sarvi**

3.0 M/21-39  
Doubles/Mixed  
Evenings/weekends  
Competition  
[Al\\_sarvi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Al_sarvi@sbcglobal.net)

## **Brian Frenzel**

3.5 M/50+  
Singles/Doubles  
Days/evenings/weekends  
Drills/matches  
[frenzel@att.net](mailto:frenzel@att.net)

## **Judy An**

4.0 F/not listed  
Singles/Doubles/Mixed  
Evenings/weekends  
Practice/competition  
[xatennis@gmail.com](mailto:xatennis@gmail.com)

## **Dorothy Pantel**

3.0 F/50+  
Singles/Doubles/Mixed  
Evenings/weekends  
Practice/competition/matches  
[tennis15@comcast.net](mailto:tennis15@comcast.net)

## **Charlene Schill**

3.0 F/50+  
Singles/some Doubles  
Mondays - start times 9:00-  
10:00AM or 6:00-6:30PM  
Matches  
[charschill@yahoo.com](mailto:charschill@yahoo.com)

## **Irwin Horowitz**

3.0 M/50+  
Singles/Doubles/Mixed  
Days/weekends/some evenings  
Practice  
[Irwin,horowitz@comcast.net](mailto:Irwin,horowitz@comcast.net)

## **Ken Yamamoto**

3.5 M/50+  
Singles/Doubles/Mixed  
Evenings/weekends  
Matches  
[kenyamamoto@comcast.net](mailto:kenyamamoto@comcast.net)

## **Rick Lambers**

3.5 M/40-49  
Singles  
Wed/Thur evenings after 6:00PM/some Sunday  
afternoons  
Practice  
[rlambers@comcast.net](mailto:rlambers@comcast.net)

## **David Krug**

4.0 M/40-49  
Mixed doubles  
Days/evenings/weekends  
Competition  
[dkrug@aol.com](mailto:dkrug@aol.com)

## **Fred Tierney**

3.0/3.5 M/50+  
Singles/Doubles/Mixed  
Days/evenings/weekends  
Playing sets, etc.  
[fredtierney@comcast.net](mailto:fredtierney@comcast.net)

## **Yen Mar**

3.5 M/50+  
Doubles/mixed  
Mon/Wed/Fri evenings 7:00-9:00PM  
Practice/group lessons  
[ramney04@yahoo.com](mailto:ramney04@yahoo.com)

## **Alex Kurosawa**

3.5/4.0 M/not an issue  
Doubles  
Day/weekends preferred  
Playing NTRP tournaments  
[kurosawa@start-up101.com](mailto:kurosawa@start-up101.com)

## **Kathy Trahan**

4.0 F/40-49  
Singles/doubles  
Evenings/weekends  
Match play  
[trahan@netapp.com](mailto:trahan@netapp.com)

..... more  
**MATCH MAKER**  
on page 7

# MAKER

**Joe Choi**

3.5 M/50+  
Doubles/Mixed  
Weekends/some evenings  
Practice/Competition  
[Jchoi6934@aol.com](mailto:Jchoi6934@aol.com)

**Frances Damsgaard**

3.5 F/50+  
Singles/some Doubles/Mixed  
Available 4:30 weekdays  
Singles practice  
[damsmsg@comcast.net](mailto:damsmsg@comcast.net)

**Dotti Rado**

3.5 F/50+  
Mixed doubles  
Some Sunday's  
Social matches  
[drado@comcast.net](mailto:drado@comcast.net)

**Lynne Stark**

3.5 F/40-49  
Doubles/Mixed  
Weekdays after Adult season ends  
Social matches  
[Lstark1613@aol.com](mailto:Lstark1613@aol.com)

**Louie Alicea**

4.0 M/50+  
Singles/Doubles  
Available Mornings  
Practice/Competition  
[l.alicea@sbcglobal.net](mailto:l.alicea@sbcglobal.net)

**The Match Maker format:**

Line One: name  
Line Two: rating/sex/age  
Line Three: game format  
Line Four: availability  
Line Five: email address

**Want to join?** Just send the information listed above to me – [drado@comcast.net](mailto:drado@comcast.net)

## UP THE LADDER..... By Bob Gonzales, Ladder Coordinator

Have you stopped by the CTC display case in front of court 2? The LADDER is posted, and a few more people have been added.

What's new this year? Awards for qualified second place winners; more to shoot for. To qualify, players must have a minimum of 10 points for either first or second place. Two points are given for each match winner and one point is given to the loser. Win or lose you

get points. In October, those at the tops of the ladders will be those with the most points. If you started now, you would be at the top since everyone is still at zero. All you need are points.

You have seven months to acquire points, but there is still no time to waste. Time flies. Get going now.

Something to remember is that you can get on a ladder another way. Two singles players or 2

doubles teams can challenge each other for the purpose of the Ladder. Send in your names and scores. You will be given points and added to the respective ladders.

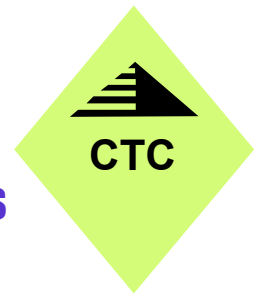
Challengers are to furnish the match balls.

Questions?  
Email:  
[ladders@cupertinotennisclub.org](mailto:ladders@cupertinotennisclub.org)

1<sup>st</sup> and  
2<sup>nd</sup> place  
awards =

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$  
\$\$\$\$\$\$\$





## Low Self Esteem? Play Some Doubles

some good advice from John Sperinde

This sure seems like the ideal situation. You can't lose. You win when you play well. And even if you don't win, it's because your partner didn't quite contribute enough.

It's a good idea to pick a partner that is better than you. Don't admit it though. This helps in so many ways. The better partner can flat out win the match. Or, sometimes your opponents can't quickly figure out who the weaker player is and you get a few early games without much effort. You might want to play on the ad side since this is where the stronger player usually plays. If you're lucky enough to hit a couple of winners, there is a chance you can keep your opponents confused for the whole match.

You need to keep a few things in mind so you don't get down on yourself. If you hit a couple of sitters to the net guy, you are just feeling out his overhead. By the way, did you ever notice how hard it is to hit the ball to the net player in practice and how easy it is in a match? If you hit a ball that was headed out and your partner tells you, just remember that he was supposed to help you before you hit it. Be quick to say "yours." You are just communicating with your partner. And if you lose the point, you are in the clear. You can use this whenever your partner has a reasonable chance of returning the ball. Don't be too obvious though or your partner will get wise to you.

A partner who makes questionable line calls can often be a plus. The Code says to call a ball out only if you are sure. But tennis etiquette says not to disagree with your partner. So long as a ball is reasonably close (say not *obviously* in the green) support your partner. It's the proper thing to do.

You certainly don't want to criticize your partner. But you can still do a few things to support a feeling superiority. Glare, moan, roll your eyes, mumble to yourself, but do it discreetly so your partner can hardly tell.

Is there anyone out there looking for a partner? I've been feeling a little low lately.

### ***The Cupertino Tennis Club – who are we?***

We are people who enjoy the company and friendship of other Club members we play with and against.

We enjoy the excellent staff, tennis facilities, the fitness programs and equipment available at CSC.

We enjoy participating in a full range of tennis activities every month of the year.

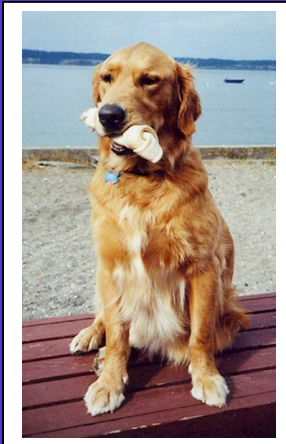
We like the excellent pass holder benefits available at the CSC.

Our club is co-sponsored by the City of Cupertino

Parks&Recreation Dept. and the members of the club.

We are a group of volunteers promoting tennis in our community by organizing tennis activities and events for people who love the sport.

As always, any errors you find belong to me. You can keep them, though. I have plenty.



Got a bone to pick? Why not write it up and send it in?

drado@comcast.net

### **We're on the Web!**

See us at:  
[www.cupertinotennisclub.org](http://www.cupertinotennisclub.org)





## Earth Day 2007

Oak School Garden/Nature Club presents

### Athletic Shoe Recycling Drive



April 16 to 20

Shoe bins next to the Oak School Multipurpose Room  
1501 Oak Avenue, Los Altos

Since the first Earth Day in 1970, Earth Day has been an annual event for people around the world to celebrate the earth and renew our commitment to building a safer, healthier and cleaner world for all of us. The Oak School Nature Club offers you an opportunity to make a difference:

Nature Club will collect worn-out athletic shoes from our Oak School community and turn them in to the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe. Instead of throwing your used sports shoes into the trash to be dumped in a landfill, turn them in to be recycled into sports and play surfaces.

- non-metal-containing athletic shoes
- any sport: tennis, baseball, soccer, basketball, etc.
- any brand
- any size

For more info on the athletic shoe recycling program, see  
<http://shoerecycle.notlong.com>

For your future reference, Metro Sport is the drop-off point in our local area:

Metro Sport  
21267 Stevens Creek Blvd (in The Oaks)  
Cupertino 408-446-5511

# Electronic Waste Recycling Drive



**April 28**  
**9 am – 4 pm**

**Foothill Covenant Church**  
**1555 Oak Avenue, Los Altos**

Drive in and Drop off  
We unload for you!

A benefit for Oak School:  
Mention Oak School to earn our donation! **Accepted items include:**

Computers  
Monitors  
Televisions  
CPUs  
Microwaves  
Printers  
Fax Machines  
Radios  
DVD/VCR players  
Telephones  
Speakers  
Stereos  
Cables/cords  
Power supplies  
Shredders  
Lab equipment

Zip drives & More! **Questions? Call 877-279-0230**