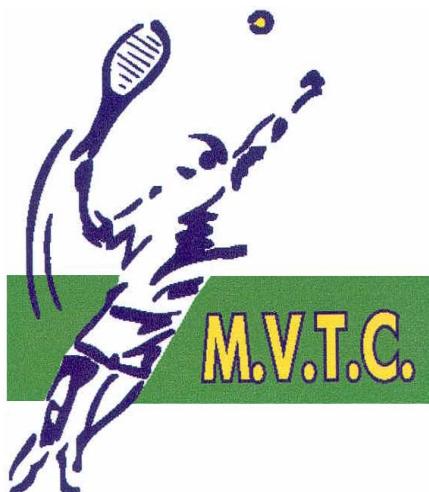


MVTC COURT REPORT

MOUNTAIN VIEW TENNIS CLUB

MVTC.NET

APRIL 2006



Upcoming Events

Mixed Doubles Tournament
Saturday and Sunday, April 8-9!

Umbrella Tennis
Starting this month at Cuesta on a dry court near you!

Inside This Issue

President's Message	1
Parks & Rec Meeting Summary	2
City Council Meeting Summary	2
Team Tennis Tourney Results	3
Donate Your Outdated Gear	3
April Tournament	4
Call for NCAA Volunteers	4
New Member Profiles	4
General Meeting Summary	5
Umbrella Tennis	5
Membership Report	5

Contact MVTC via e-mail at:

info@mvtc.net

Or leave a message at:

650-964-6224

President's Message- MVTC Springs Into Spring

By Patsy Duke

On the day after St. Patrick's Day, our own Irish lassie, Liz Chambers, assisted by non-Irishmen Madan Venugopal and Rajiv Khilnani, led us into the 2006 season with a smoothly-run Team Tennis tournament. For a change, we had no rain delays – just a beautiful day and over 60 happy players, well-fed by Jill Rahimi.

A few days later at our General Meeting, our multi-talented vice president, Mike Rodgers, continued our glorious week with a sumptuous feast for over 80 people and a preview showing of a film produced by our own Venkat Narayanan. By popular demand, we will bring Venkat back with enough time for a full-length presentation. Look for an announcement in an upcoming next Court Report.

Welcome to our new members! Here are the answers to two frequent questions:

What is a blue card? Well children, back in the Dark Ages before the Internet (gasp!), people who wanted to sign up for tournaments filled out a pre-printed blue postcard with their names, ratings, etc., addressed it to themselves, put a stamp on it, attached a check, and put it in a box kept at the desk at Cuesta. The cards were used to arrange the draws and then marked with start times and mailed back to participants.

Today of course, one can go to <http://mvtc.net> and both enter online and pay using Pay Pal. And since the draws are produced by software and then posted online, players can use the link on the website to find their own start times, opponents, etc. Blue cards are still available for those who prefer to enter and pay using that method.

What is umbrella tennis? Although the umbrella itself has faded into myth, the happy custom continues of meeting at Cuesta at 6:00 on Friday evenings (April through September) for drop-in social tennis. The Club pays to reserve two courts for two hours.

The rules are simple: first-come, first-served. At least one court is mixed doubles. Each foursome plays one no-ad set, then everyone moves around, giving preference to those who have been sitting out.

It's a good way to meet people in the Club in a relaxed atmosphere. We try to keep the same two courts all season, but it's a good idea to look around in case we've been bumped by USTA matches. Usually we're in the back (9 & 10, 11 & 12, or 5 & 6).

See you on the court!
Patsy

Parks & Rec Commission Recommends Tim Foley

By Ashlee Bailey

Many people had to look it up on a map: 585 Franklin St., the Mountain View Public Library. But once inside, there was no mistaking which room held the Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting.

Thank goodness the fire marshal doesn't play tennis. While he may have come to support a candidate, he would have been obliged to act on the fire hazard that was the Mountain View public tennis community.

Tennis players filled the room and then leaked out into the hallways. They occupied every chair that could fit in the room; they sat against the walls, behind the commissioners, and on the floor in front of the commissioners. They were everywhere, like ants seeking shelter from incessant rain.

And most came with the same purpose: to implore the Parks & Recreation Commission to reconsider the staff recommendation supporting Life Time Tennis, Inc. (LTI) as the new operator of Cuesta Tennis Center.

At the meeting, Jim Teixeira presented the staff report. It showed two top applicants, LTI and Tim Foley. They were judged on a 500 point scale. After evaluations were complete, LTI received 432 points and Tim Foley received 413 points. To view the staff report, visit:

<http://laserfiche.ci.mtnview.ca.us/weblink7/docview.aspx?id=32447>.

After the staff report concluded, the commissioners had a few questions for city staff, mainly surrounding the confusion of availability of walk-on courts under the LTI proposal. Then, the floor opened up to 46 speakers, 44 of whom supported Tim Foley.

After listening to speakers for over an hour, the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the issue. Most felt that the point difference between LTI and Tim Foley was not significant. Also, they were overwhelmed by the support for Tim Foley.

The commission voted on two motions. The first stated asked city staff to not forward their recommendation of LTI to the city council or pursue contract negotiations with LTI. It passed 5-0. The second motion asked city staff to forward a recommendation of Tim Foley to the city council and pursue contract negotiations with Tim Foley. It passed 4-1.

The next step in the process was to bring the recommendation of Tim Foley before the city council on March 28. See Mike's summary below

City Council Selects Tim Foley

By Mike Rodgers

Many of you were there in person, and many watched at home on local KMVT, but very late Tuesday evening, March 28, the Mountain View City Council voted 7-0 to award the CTC operator long-term contract to Tim Foley.

The council thanked the audience for their extremely good behavior and for keeping the number of speakers to a minimum. Thanks to all who participated by email and in person in the discussions at the many public meetings on this over the last three years.

The informal "Friends of Cuesta Tennis Center" group intends to be certified by the city as a real CAB (Citizen's Advisory Board) to help guide Tim Foley and the Recreation Department in balancing the tennis community's needs. Similarly, MVTC looks forward to working closely with Tim over the next five years.

Setting Their Sites on Rengstorff?

Once again, there was some discussion about setting up a tennis operator at Rengstorff Park, but a motion towards

the first steps in awarding Rengstorff to Lifetime Tennis was defeated 5-2.

The city staff was advised to bring back to the council a discussion on the Rengstorff tennis courts at a future date and at a lower priority than other agenda items. We hope to work with the city staff and recreation department in any future evaluations or proposals for the Rengstorff tennis courts, as it is really the center for most MVTC activities.

In the meantime, we are glad that the seating on the bleachers at Rengstorff are scheduled for repairs and upgrade this year; and don't worry, the nice shaded overhang will remain!

Senior Center Parking Policy

The City of Mountain View would like to remind you that there is no parking at the Senior Center near the Rengstorff tennis courts from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can park at the senior center after 5 p.m. on weekdays and any time on the weekends.

Fun in the Sun at the March Team Tennis Tournament

By Liz Chambers

After days (weeks?) of rain, the sun gods finally woke up and shone on us for the team tennis tournament on Saturday March 18th. With a winter Olympic theme, the teams of Downhillers, Bobsledders, Aerials and Iceskaters took to the courts in the morning.

No major St Patrick's Day hangovers were seen, but a little rust was detected in the tennis strokes. Captain Terri Rayl led the Bobsledders, Carol Tolen, Dan Mah, Dave Beggs, Kirby Drumm, Bernie Paragas, Greg Schwartz, and Butch Logan to an early lead in the first two rounds and never looked back. They finished morning session in style with a 23 point lead over the 2nd place Downhillers.

Aerials Captain, Maria Lange, performed some major maneuvers to pull together a team that was missing some players and had to substitute ladies as men, but all was done with great spirit. Rajiv Khilnani also gra-

ciously filled in to help out.

Jill Rahimi with helpers Carol Tolen, Patsy Duke and Anabelle Burke served up some great Chinese food and salads for lunch, and after a morning of tennis it was very welcome.

By 1pm the Snowboarders, Skeltons, Biathletes, and Lugers were ready to go. Thanks to Ray Uribes, Mike Siew and Bernie Paragas, who not having enough tennis in the morning session, volunteered to play in the afternoon. They allowed us to field 4 full teams.

The Lugers, led by Rajiv Khilnani took the early lead but then the Skeltons led by Bob Corman and the Biathletes led by John Manton, came on strong in the next few rounds. In the end it was a close call, but the Skeltons, Carrie Chiang, Joy Warrick, Jason Grissom, Carl Takahara, Seth Orvis, Bernie Paragas, Solomon Tan and Captain Bob Corman came away with the trophies. Bernie Paragas

doing double duty ended up with trophies for both morning and afternoon – way to go Bernie!!!

Thanks again to all the captains, Terri Rayl, Maria Lange, Sayuri Sharper, Bob Corman, John Manton, Rajiv Khilnani and Jeff Hechter for helping organize the teams and ensuring we all had a good day of tennis.

Also thanks to my co-director Madan Venugopal, draw party attendees Carol Tolen, Ken Humble and Patsy Duke for organizing the trophies, I could not do it without you.

Jill Rahimi, our food chair, wishes to extend a special thanks for the generous food donations (veggie/dip trays, cookies, desert, and fruit) brought by Carol Tolen, Rosaline Juan, Jonah Harley, Jeffery Ballou and Amba Mohlajee!

Next tournament is Mixed Doubles in April.

Donate Your Outdated Gear

By Marc Shaw

Dear MVTC members,

Many of you know me and for those who don't, my name is Marc Shaw. I have been a member of the club since moving to Mountain View in 1987.

I have been an active member and proud to say a former president of the club.

I am a 3rd grade teacher in East San Jose at San Antonio Elementary School. My school is in the 95116 zip code, the poorest in all of San Jose.

I have taught the USTA playground tennis curriculum in the past, but since my return to the classroom this

year after being out or the past 3 years I no longer have any tennis equipment.

I am in desperate need of tennis racquets, tennis balls, replacement grips and over grip.

Since I am sure that many of you have some old technology stashed away in your storage areas, in my case the garage, that are sitting around gathering dust, why not donate/recycle that perfectly useable gear to a bunch of school kids who can learn to play the game we all love so much?

I can't give you a tax deduction, but I can assure you that the equipment will be used, taken care of, and appreciated.

May thanks to all of you who take heart to this matter. If you are interested, please contact me at: g8teach@pacbell.net.

Sincerely,
Marc

April Tournament – Mixed Doubles

By Liz Chambers

Date	April 8-9
Location	Rengstorff Tennis Courts
Entry Fee	\$10 for members, \$15 for non-members
Entry Deadline	April 1
Participants	MVTC Members and Guests
Tournament Director	Rajiv Khilnani and Kathy Nichols
Food Director	TBD

This tournament is open to MVTC members and guests.

In case of rain, call the MVTC message center at 650-964-6224.

NCAA Tournament Volunteers

There is a need for 4 alternates for the two Saturdays of the NCAA tournament at Stanford on May 20 and May 27.

This is a piece of cake: Greet the players and show them where the snacks, TV, computers, stringing area, etc. are. No food buying involved.

Also, there will be the perks of T-shirt, visor, and free admission to matches!

If you are interested, call Carol Tolen at (650) 968-3919 or email her at tolenc@sbcglobal.net.

Member Profiles: New MVTC Members

Every year, new members join the club. We're always glad for new members. So, let's meet some of them! Our member profile will feature more new members next month.

Michele Culberson

I have played tennis in the area for 25+ years as 4.5 singles and then more recently 4.0 doubles on many USTA and senior's teams, mostly with Fremont Hills Country Club people. The last two years, I have had less time to play tennis due to work commitments and had knee surgery, so am not as mobile. But I still love to play and am probably 3.5-4.0 doubles level. I have lived in the area for 30 years. I am a nurse at Stanford Hospital.

Jason Grissom

I'm originally from just outside Raleigh, North Carolina. My wife and I are high school sweethearts, but we've known each other since we were little kids. I am working on a PhD in Political Economics right now at Stanford (I've finished everything but my dissertation), and I also teach a couple of classes there. When I'm not at school or playing tennis, I enjoy running, watching movies, cooking

and catching up on whatever we've got downloaded on Tivo.

Michael Hahn

My wife and I moved to the Cuesta Park neighborhood early last year, and given the great tennis center right around the corner, I am wanting to pick up tennis again. Other than our newborn daughter keeping us busy, I'm always looking for a friendly 3.5-level match at the Cuesta Park tennis center in the late evenings or on Saturday mornings.

Jonah Harley

I grew up in Newfoundland, Canada, and played junior tournament tennis up through high school. I played recreationally off and on through college, and after almost a decade off, I would now like to restart playing regular tennis. My wife Gypsy and I moved to the bay area in 1995 for graduate school. I completed my PhD in mechanical engineering at Stanford in 1999 and took a job at HP Labs. HP spun out Agilent Technologies, which recently spun out Avago Technologies, which is where I am today. We live in Mountain View near the Rengstorff courts.

Rosaline Juan

I'm a 3.0 and play for Hiroko's Cuesta team. I work in magazine publishing for the Stanford Social Innovation Review, a magazine covering non-profit management, philanthropy and socially responsible business published by Stanford Graduate School of Business. I grew up in Chicago and have lived in Little Rock, Arkansas, Washington, DC, and elsewhere. I enjoy volunteering, traveling, reading, and tennis of course!

Varant Kurkeyerian

I've played tennis since I was a teenager and became competitive in the last 4-5 years. I'm a singles player, and I enjoy playing in the NTRP tournaments. I joined MVTC to get back into competition and to meet new people.

Henry Su

I live in Mountain View and play primarily at Cuesta. I started to take up tennis seriously about three years ago, and I take lessons with Tim Foley. I am naturally right-handed but play lefty. For most hours of the day, I am a trial lawyer, which puts me in regular contact with court reporters of a different sort.

The General Meeting – It Rocked

By Mike Rodgers

For those that missed it, there was great fun and great food and wine at the spring general meeting on Wednesday, March 22. I guesstimated there were close to 100 in attendance.

Besides a number of smoked meats from my smoker, we served several large oven pans worth of a variety of wonderful fresh Italian foods and salads from Lucca Ravioli (22nd & Mission in SF, in case you're interested).

In addition, we had some really great red and white wines selected by Seth Orvis, who is currently teaching a class on wines at San Jose State. You folks all amazed me by how much food tennis players can eat! I still find it hard to believe there was hardly a morsel of anything left.

Starting off the evening was a creative effort, a short talk and excerpts from his film about a local tennis teacher "From Brooklyn to the Hall of Fame" by Venkat Narayanan. Many thanks to Julie McGrew and Tech Productions, who provided the AV equipment and a technician for Venkat's presentation, free of charge.

Due to the high interest in Venkat's film, we are planning to hold a social and screen the entire film plus allow more time for Q&A with Venkat on the film. Look for an announcement via email blast and on the club website about this additional MVTC event this spring

that will also enable us to also use up the left over wine and beer.

Jere Schaefer then took a few minutes to present a brief history of Cuesta Tennis Center and to thank all the club members who have supported keeping the historical operational model of Cuesta intact.

Patsy then introduced all the board members and held a vote to confirm Debbie Ryan as club secretary. We still have openings for publicity and social chairs, which will become even more important with MVTC special events around the 40th anniversary next year.

I talked briefly about plans for the 40th celebration, perhaps moving the Fall '07 general meeting to a Saturday date and holding a day's worth of special events, perhaps at Cuesta Park, before our regularly scheduled general meeting type events at a local restaurant.

Please let any board members know if you're interested in helping out in the 40th celebration or volunteering for the open social or publicity chair roles.

Thanks to all of you for helping us to clean up in record time and vacate the room on time by 9 p.m. I can't believe this was only my first general meeting in five years of being a MVTC member. Now I know what I have been missing!

Umbrella Tennis

By Ashlee Bailey

Ironic, isn't it, that we have umbrella tennis at Cuesta on Fridays from 6-8 p.m., but no one can play because it's raining.

Umbrella tennis lasts from April through September. Generally, courts 5&6, 9&10, or 11&12 are reserved.

This is a free MVTC event!

The rules: first-come, first-served. At least one court is mixed doubles. Each foursome plays one no-ad set, then everyone moves around, giving preference to those who have been sitting out.

Come out and meet other club members and play some free tennis!

Membership Report

By Greg Schwartz

It was great to see so many people out at team tennis and the general meeting! Things are off to a quick start, with the Social Doubles Ladder and Umbrella Tennis about to begin as well. If the weather would just cooperate...

Membership Numbers:

- 269 members, half residents
- 58% men, 42% women
- 8 on the waiting list

Play tennis with people you think are members? Don't be so sure! Many members from years past have fallen off our roster - please

Upcoming USTA Tournaments

There are a few USTA tournaments in our area in April and May:

Mills College Spring NTRP

April 21-23; April 29-30, 2006
Entries close April 15, 2006

Salinas Valley NTRP Classic

April 22-23; April 29-30, 2006
Entries close April 16, 2006

Fremont NTRP

May 5-7, 2006
Entries close April 30, 2006

AVAC NTRP Doubles Classic

May 26-29, 2006
Entries close April 24, 2006

For more information, visit <http://tournaments.usta.com>.

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M.V.T.C.
