

“On the line”

November 2006

In This Issue

Annual Turkey Shoot	1
November Calendar	1
Time To Renew	1
New Year's Trip	1
2006 Board Members	2
Silent Auction Wrap-Up	2
Welcome New Members	2
Club Championships	3
SMTC Challenge Ladders	4
Ladder Director's Notes	4



SANTA
MONICA
TENNIS
CLUB

-Since 1928-

Annual Turkey Shoot Fun Sunday, November 12



SMTC's annual Turkey Shoot will take place on Sunday, November 12, 2006 at Reed Park. This is one of the Club's most popular and long-running social tournaments with all players competing in a round robin mixed doubles format. Each player enters without a partner and plays on one of two teams, either the "Turkeys" or the "Hams".

The scores of the two teams are accumulated throughout the day. After all matches are completed and the feathers have settled, every member of the day's winning team will receive a \$10 gift certificate from a local supermarket to help towards their own Thanksgiving banquet.

As this is the season of giving thanks, a donation of non-perishable food items will be collected and given to a west-side food bank. If there is a volunteer willing to oversee this task, please contact Ron Elmer with your information.

All entries must be received by November 11. Send the enclosed entry form and a check made payable to SMTC for \$25 per player to: Ron Elmer, 10724 Debra Avenue, Granada Hills, CA 91344. Please write your e-mail address legibly on the entry form, or include a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope with your entry.

After all entries are received, players will be notified via post or e-mail of their session and starting time.

KEEP COMING BACK!

Your membership renewal application for 2007 is included in this newsletter. Please complete the form and mail it in as soon as possible to the P.O. Box. Remember to make any changes to your address, phone number and especially e-mail address. Please note that due to increased costs and reduced membership, it was necessary to make a slight increase in the annual dues - **from \$55 to \$65**. But even at the new rate, a membership in Santa Monica Tennis Club is still the best deal in town. Keep coming back to Sunday open play, competitive tournaments and fabulous parties by rejoining the club for 2007. See you on the courts!

November Calendar

Sunday Open Play at Reed Park

11/5, 11/19, 11/26

Turkey Shoot Tournament

11/12

New Year's Tennis Trip!

We will do it again!! Please mark your calendar for the SMTC New Year's trip, 3 days, 2 nights, Dec. 30 - Jan. 1, 2007.

Please contact Jutta Ruehl if interested:
e-mail: JR2LA@aol.com or 310-208-6882.

Silent Auction Wrap-Up

Even though the attendance was smaller than the previous silent auction two years ago, SMTC did quite well, the auction raised a little over \$1,100 for the club. The value of the donated items was \$3,300, so you can see we had bargains! We had a large variety of items - from DVD's to \$500 value Wellness Certificates. The biggest spender who purchased a number of valuable items was **Bill Henry**, followed by **Cyrus Namini**, who purchased the concert tickets, and **Andre Charvet**, who also purchased three items. One of the items many people overlooked was the 'money jar' as it contained dollar coins plus miscellaneous change - looked smaller than it represented! Ron Elmer was the lucky purchaser. SMTC thanks everyone who purchased the donated items, as well as the time spent by the Chairman, **Sue Moore!** Thanks also to Anoosh for helping to raise the auction bids.

Donors among the club members were:

Anoosh Askari; Andre Charvet; Elizabeth Dorzback; Ron Elmer, Kara Glover; Klavdia Goldshteyn; Carmen Grant; Brana Hall; Tom Jonides; Marguerite Jorgensen; Carol Katz; Patti Kingston; Danielle Michaels; Julie Morris; Joanie Rippner; Jutta Ruehl; Bruce Schelden and Katherine Spetner. It was especially nice for the members who promised to donate at Casa Via Mar outing that followed through on the pledges. Many thanks again to every one.

Katherine Spetner receives a special 'thank you' as she not only donated her house and her services for the party, she made and donated a beautiful floral arrangement, two hours of design consultation and three soap make kits!

Merchants who donated and were contacted by SMTC members were: Estetica Complete Hair Make Over Service, a \$300 value, (still for sale); Elio's Wellness Certificates, two each at a \$500 value each; Kris Jordan, Mountain-gate Assistant Director, two one hour tennis lessons, at \$80 per hour; Heide Skvarna, private yoga lesson, value \$125; Tish Nettleship, LaSenora Research Foundation, two concert tickets; Century Housing (Allan Kingston) two cases of tennis balls.

- Marguerite Jorgensen

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Patrick Brady (310) 975-9276 - 4.0
 Jim Castagnola (310) 827 6734 - 4.5
 Paul Keltner (310) 664-1439 - 3.5
 Garik Khechoyan (310) 395-4249 - 4.0
 Gisel Nachtigal (310) 559-2834 - 4.0
 Chitavan Pandya (310) 694-4249 - 3.0
 Vikram Patel (310) 795-1740 - 1.5
 David Ullum (310) 822-2927 - 3.5
 Jack Winnick (310) 202 1819 - 3.5
 Helen Zhao (310) 820-4788 - 3.5

Suspended until 1/1/07:

Steve Dorman

You will notice that we have ten new members this month! We think this is something of a record. Of the ten new ones, three were referred by other members, one came from Pacific Palisades, one from Reed Park and one from the website! Also, eight of the new members want to receive their newsletter via email! Way to go!

2006 SMTC Board of Directors

Officers

President	Elizabeth Dorzback	310-829-3293
Vice-President	Jutta Ruehl	310-208-6882
Secretary	Marguerite Jorgensen	310-454-2408
Treasurer	Bruce Schelden	310-306-7115

Directors

Social	Ron Elmer	818-903-2170
Ladder	Bruce Janger	310-392-0680
Membership	Available	
Tournaments	Anoosh Askari	310-828-6207
Interclub	Available	
Trips	Jutta Ruehl	310-208-6882

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 1460 7th Street, Suite 305
 Santa Monica, CA 90401

Club Championship and Annual Dinner Party Wrap Up - Two Grand Events in One Day

On September 10th, while tennis fans all over the world were waiting to see the last professional single match of Andre Agassi, the tennis giant and possibly the most popular tennis player of all time, 40 not-so-giant tennis players (but perhaps just as popular, if not in the world of tennis but here in west side tennis circles), gathered in Reed Park to start the first matches of this year's Club Championship.

This year the entries were for one mixed doubles 4.0 category and three singles events: 4.0 and 4.5 in men's singles and in 4.5 men's doubles. (Unfortunately, there was only one entry for women's doubles and we had to cancel this category). **Marguerite Jorgensen**, who has put so much time and effort as secretary and director of the Board, and her partner **Lia Farley** were disappointed but gracious in getting this news after the deadline for the draws.

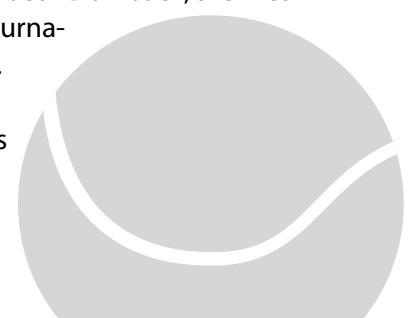
Twenty-four matches were played on all six courts in 8 hours on the first day, Sunday, September 10th. Sixteen matches were played in the second day, Sunday September 16th and eight semi-final and final matches were played on the final day, Sunday, September 17th. The format was double elimination and each member could enter in maximum of two events. There were three who took this challenge, **Harry Weiss**, **Jim Metzger** and **Cyrus Namini**. Cyrus Namini and Harry Weiss played 4 matches in one day in a row for a total of 8 hours each. They must have eaten a lot of spinach when they were growing up! Each match was played in a two-out-of-three-sets format with a 12 point tie breaker (sudden death on 7th point). The longest match was between **Raul Hernandez** and **Yosh Kambe**, which took 2 hours and 35 minutes. Out of 48 matches scheduled over the three days, 46 were completed in either two or three sets for a total of 102 sets. Nineteen sets were decided by a tiebreaker.

In 4.0 men's singles, **Gordon Bremen** had to play five matches to play Cyrus Namini, who won his fourth consecutive matches in straight sets to become champion. In 4.0 mixed doubles, **Ron Elmer** should be named the most courageous player of the tournament. Even though he twisted his ankle, he and **Carol Katz** were able to successfully complete and win their semi-final match. No one present at the court thought he would be able to walk the next day, let alone to play the final match. But he surprised even his partner when at 5 minutes to match time he appeared, with a much worse bruised and swollen ankle than the day before, ready to play. With a show of exceptional gallantry, they played a very exciting and close match. But at the end they lost both sets in a tiebreaker to the champions in this event **Harry Weiss** and **Gillian Cook**. The 4.5 men's doubles event was contested between four teams. **Harry Weiss** and **Andrew Rubin** won the championship match against **Chris Clark** and **Danny Walters**, who was substituted in place of injured **Ron Elmer**. Who is this Harry Weiss? Is he the same guy who has been either the champion or the finalist in the last 30 tournaments arranged by SMTC? The 4.5 heavy hitter men's singles championship was decided in a three set match with **Raul Hernandez** as champion and **Atul Sharma** as runner-up. Raul Hernandez and Cyrus Namini won their championship titles in straight wins.

One hour after the matches, many of the players and their guests gathered for a dinner party and post award presentation at the lovely home of **Katherine Spetner**. She, **Ron Elmer**, **Marguerite Jorgensen** and **Elizabeth Dorzback** had gone through a lot of hard work and preparation to make this party the highlight event of the year. A silent auction, spearheaded by **Sue Moore**, was an adjunct activity to the tournament and the party. She, along with Marguerite Jorgensen and Elizabeth Dorzback, had spend a tremendous time and effort to get donations to make the bidding sheets, to collect the money from the successful bidders and help with the cleaning up during and after the event along with **Don Green**, **Bruce Schelden**, **Carol Reston** and of course Kathrine Spetner. We thank and salute them and others for the fine job they did.

As a personal note I want to extend my thanks to all the board members specially to Elizabeth Dorzback, the President of the Club, who was my mentor in this my first and last year as Board Member and Tournament Director. I also want to mention all the participants of this and previous tournaments. I appreciate their high standard of character and sportsmanship conduct of all those who participated in the tournaments this year, and I cherish the opportunity given to me for this short but very rewarding experience.

- Anoosh Askari, Tournament Director



SMTc CHALLENGE LADDERS

“Snapshot” of standings taken November 5, 2006. Please see the website for current standings: www.santamonicatennisclub.com

Open Singles

1. Jim Metzger (4.5)
2. Mike Schmidt (4.5)
3. Allan Greenberg (4.0)
4. Mike Germroth (4.0)
5. Bill Denecour (4.0)
6. Marty Katz (4.5)
7. Bill Roberti (4.5)
8. Russell Braunstein (4.5)
9. Park Liu (4.0)
10. Richard Levik (4.0)
11. Rick DeWeese (4.5)
12. Andy Shore (4.5)
13. Bruce Janger (4.0)
14. Jim Dekel (4.5)
15. John Raiss (4.5)
16. Jerry Zamarin (4.0)
17. Cyrus Namini (4.0)
18. Philip Berman (4.0)
19. Josh Mallamud (4.0)
20. Stacie Murray (3.5)
21. Joe Hanania (3.5)
22. Raymond Lopez (3.5)

Women’s Singles

1. Stacie Murray (3.5)
2. Elizabeth Dorzback (4.0)
3. Diane Hart (3.0)

Mixed Doubles

1. Phoebe Neil (4.5) / Mike Schmidt (4.5)
2. Sherry Harrison (4.0) / David Morton (4.0)
3. Stacie Murray (3.5) / Mike Germroth (4.0)

Women’s Doubles

1. Sherry Harrison (4.0) / Candace Tysdal (3.5)
2. Elizabeth Dorzback (4.0) / Linda Martin (4.0)
3. Patti Kingston (3.5) / Sue Moore (3.5)
4. Monica Marin (3.5) / Stacie Murray (4.0)
5. Kim Combs (3.5) / Margaret Liu (3.5)

Men’s Doubles

1. Brian Page (4.5) / Mike Schmidt (4.5)
2. Allan Greenberg (4.0) / Jim Metzger (4.0)

Newly-Won Positions

Date	Challenger	Defeated
10/21/06	Mike Germroth	Bill Denecour
10/19/06	Andy Shore	Bruce Janger
10/15/06	Rick DeWeese	Bruce Janger
10/8/06	Jim Metzger	Mike Schmidt
9/26/06	Jim Dekel	Andy Shore

Positions Recently Defended

Date	Defender	Defeated
11/1/06	Marty Katz	Bruce Janger
10/30/06	Bill Denecour	Marty Katz
10/25/06	Mike Germroth	Bruce Janger
10/23/06	Bruce Janger	Cyrus Namini
10/17/06	Bill Roberti	Bruce Janger
10/12/06	Jim Metzger	Richard Levik (by default)
10/5/06	Richard Levik	Cyrus Namini
10/4/06	Park Liu	Bruce Janger
10/4/06	Mike Germroth	Andy Shore
9/28/06	Jim Metzger	Bruce Janger
9/20/06	Richard Levik	Andy Shore

Welcome To:

Jim Dekel
Open Singles

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

No, that was not an 8.5 earthquake on October 8. It was the shock wave of **Jim Metzger** wresting the top spot on the Open Singles Ladder away from **Mike Schmidt**, who had held it since August 20, 2005. Mike had defended his crown 9 times since then. The match took 4 hours, meaning that The Tennis Channel probably won't rerun it the usual 300 times.

“Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown.”
Shakespeare, “Henry IV, Part Two”

IT'S YOUR SERVE

The time to elect a new board of directors is now upon us. For over 78 years the Santa Monica Tennis Club has thrived under the leadership of an all-volunteer board of directors. Each member is elected to the board for a two-year term and new members keep the momentum positive, fresh and forward thinking.

This is a critical time for SMTC. Despite tennis participation having declined on both the national and local levels, our club has continued to provide varied activities on a shoe-string budget. But it doesn't happen by magic. It takes dedication, time and an honest desire to make a contribution.

And now it's your turn to serve.

If you've enjoyed club tournaments, playing at Sunday open play; participating on the challenge ladder, and making new friends, now is your opportunity to ensure these activities continue. If you have ideas for change or opinions about how things should be run, joining the board is the way to put them into practice.

Santa Monica Tennis Club needs YOU... your energy, your interest, your involvement. There will be six vacancies to fill, as the terms for Marguerite Jorgensen, Bruce Janger, Jutta Ruehl and Elizabeth Dorzback all end on December 31, 2006, one position was vacated earlier this year, and Ron Elmer will be leaving the board mid-term. The new terms begin January 1, 2007.

Join the board and give something back to the club that has given you so much throughout the years. Simply fill out the enclosed ballot, have five SMTC members sign it endorsing your candidacy, and mail it in. Voting procedures will be explained in next month's newsletter.

Note: the nomination form was not included in the October newsletter, so it is important that this form be submitted as soon as possible as there is only one more board meeting prior to January 1st 2007 and the vacancies need to be filled.

Here's to 78 more years!!

SMTC Annual Turkey Shoot Mixed Doubles Tournament Sunday, November 12, 2006

Your Name _____ male

Phone (h) _____ (cell) _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Your E-Mail _____
(Please print legibly (or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope))

Your NTRP level: 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 Open

Will you play up one division if necessary? Yes No

Enclose:

- 1) Check payable to "SMTC" for **\$25** per player
- 2) Stamped, self-addressed #10 envelope (not required if you furnish e-mail addresses)

Mail to:

Ron Elmer, 10724 Debra Avenue, Granada Hills, CA 91344.
Phone (818) 903 2170.

Deadline: Entries must be received by Nov. 11, 2006

I'd like to help you with this tournament (check)

Before ___ During ___

Please bring one item of non-perishable food as a donation to a local food bank





SANTA
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**NOMINATION FORM
DIRECTOR OF SANTA MONICA TENNIS CLUB 2007**

I, (PRINT NAME) _____, place my name in nomination for a position of DIRECTOR of the Santa Monica Tennis Club.

I am currently a member of the club and the following members in good standing support my nomination:

Members who support the above nomination: (please sign your name on the left and print your name on the right)

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Nominee's Signature: _____

Address _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____

Phone (home) (____) _____ (work) (____) _____

Mail to: SMTNominations, P. O. Box 2012, Santa Monica, CA 90406



Santa Monica Tennis Club

- ▶ Renewal Application for Membership - 2007
- ▶ Gift Membership Application - 2007

If you joined late in 2006

2006 members who joined the club on or after October 1, 2006 and did not play in the Club Championships are automatically paid-up members for the full year 2007 and may disregard this renewal request.

Please fill out the form(s) below and mail to:

Membership, Santa Monica Tennis Club, PO Box 2012, Santa Monica, CA 90406

If you have questions, leave a message at (310) 281-3196



Renewal Application for 2007 Membership -- Mail to: SMTC, PO Box 2012, Santa Monica, CA 90406

Name _____ Check if spelling change from current label
last first

E-Mail _____ Male Female

Check here if you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail

NTRP Playing Level (over): Circle one 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 5.5 6.0 6.5 7.0

This is: My estimate Official USTA rating dated _____

Renew my membership for 2007: without any changes with the following changes

(Complete the following phone and address information only if you have changes):

Phone (home) (_____) _____ (work) (_____) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please enclose a check payable to "SMTC" for \$65.00 Check# _____



Gift Membership (pay \$65) - Mail to: SMTC, PO Box 2012, Santa Monica, CA 90406

Please Issue a 2007 Santa Monica Tennis Club membership, as a gift, to:

Name _____ Phone (home) (_____) _____
last first

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail _____ Male Female

Check here if the gift recipient would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail

NTRP Playing Level (over): Circle one 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 3.5 4.0 4.5 5.0 5.5 6.0 6.5 7.0

Please enclose a check payable to "SMTC" for \$65.00 Check# _____

SANTA MONICA TENNIS CLUB INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY

Every adult tennis player, regardless of ability, is welcome to join SMTC. You do not have to be a resident of Santa Monica.

HANDBOOK

A Members' Handbook, including a membership roster, is mailed to all current members in the first quarter of the year. It is updated periodically throughout the year and supplements are mailed out with the club newsletter.

NEWSLETTER

"on the line" is issued monthly to all current members and includes announcements of all upcoming events, the latest ladder positions and entry blanks for the upcoming activities.

ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY OPEN PLAY

The club reserves three courts at Reed Park for "Open Play" every Sunday throughout the year, except when the courts are being used for tournaments or other sanctioned activities. These three reserved courts are for the exclusive use of members. Open play guidelines are printed in the handbook.

SMTC TOURNAMENTS

These tournaments are held throughout the year at Reed Park, usually one each month. Most are one-day, Sunday tournaments. Main events include the Hello Tournament in February, the Member/Guest Tournament in July, the Club Championships in the fall, and the Turkey Shoot tournament in November.

INTERCLUB TOURNAMENTS

These one-day matches with other clubs are scheduled throughout the year.

CHALLENGE LADDERS

SMTC maintains singles, doubles and mixed doubles challenge ladders which are open to all current members, regardless of ability. Guidelines are published in the handbook and standings are posted each month in the newsletter.

BOARD MEETINGS

The board of directors meets monthly. Any suggestions, problems, or accolades should be brought to the attention of a board member who will present them to the board at the next meeting. A general meeting, open to all members, is held annually in the fall and announced in the newsletter.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

These include, but are not limited to, the Hello Tournament party, the Club Championships awards party and weekend trips to tennis resorts, usually in Southern California.

The National Tennis Rating Program (NTRP)

1.0 - This player is just starting to play tennis.

1.5 - This player has limited playing experience and is still working primarily on getting the ball over the net; has some knowledge of scoring but is not familiar with basic positions and procedures for singles and doubles play.

2.0 - This player may have had some lessons but needs on-court experience; has obvious stroke weaknesses but is beginning to feel comfortable with singles and doubles play.

2.5 - This player has more dependable strokes and is learning to judge where the ball is going; has weak court coverage or is often caught out of position, but is starting to keep the ball in play with other players of the same ability

3.0 - This player can place shots with moderate success; can sustain a rally of slow pace but is not comfortable with all strokes; lacks control when trying for power.

3.5 - This player has achieved stroke dependability and direction on shots within reach, including forehand and backhand volleys, but still lacks depth and variety; seldom double faults and occasionally forces errors on the serve.

4.0 - This player has dependable strokes on both forehand and backhand sides; has the ability to use a variety of shots including lobs, overheads, approach shots and volleys; can place the first serve and force some errors; is seldom out of position in a doubles game.

4.5 - This player has begun to master the use of power and spins; has sound footwork, can control depth of shots and is able to move opponent up and back; can hit first serves with power and accuracy and place the second serve; is able to rush the net with some success on serve in singles as well as doubles.

5.0 - This player has good shot anticipation; frequently has an outstanding shot or exceptional consistency around which a game may be structured; can regularly hit winners or force errors off of short balls; can successfully execute lobs, drop shots, half volleys and overhead smashes; has good depth and spin on most second serves.

5.5 - This player can execute all strokes offensively and defensively; can hit dependable shots under pressure; is able to analyze opponents' styles and can employ patterns of play to assure the greatest possibility of winning points; can hit winners or force errors with both first and second serves; return of serve can be an offensive weapon.

6.0 - This player has mastered all the above skills; has developed power and/or consistency as a major weapon; and can vary strategies and styles of play in a competitive situation. This player typically has had intensive training for national competition at junior or collegiate levels.

6.5 - This player has mastered all of the above skills and is an experienced tournament competitor who regularly travels for competition and whose income may be partially derived from prize winnings.

7.0 - This is a world class player.