

Hilton Tennis Club Newsletter

February 16, 2007

Welcome to another season of tennis at Hilton Tennis Club. The 2007 members of the Board of Directors are:

Dan Sims (President), Carter Ficklen (Secretary), Billy Haigler (Treasurer), Ron Comeaux, Linda Even, Andy Mueller, Glenn Murphrey, Mike Robinson, Norma Sims

Committee assignments:

Membership Committee: Dan Sims (Chair)

Tennis Committee: Glenn Murphrey (Chair), Linda Even, Norma Sims, Andy Mueller, Ron Comeaux

Grounds Committee: Carter Ficklen (Chair), Glenn Murphrey, Dan Sims, Mike Robinson

Thanks: I would like to thank all the **Board Members** for all their hard work in making the 2006 season such a success. In particular, I would like to thank the following people: **Glenn Murphrey** for coordinating all the tennis events, for coordinating the Golf Outing, for coordinating the annual Center vs Center event, for help painting the clubhouse, for helping with the Court 1 & 2 project, for helping organize the popular Thursday evening doubles league, for helping deliver the club's new gas grill, and for providing advice and leadership for many club projects; **Bob Spooner** for help painting the clubhouse and for running and scheduling the Thursday evening doubles league; **Brooks Ryno** for helping with the Center vs Center cookout, for running and scheduling the Thursday Evening Doubles League; **Andy Mueller** for coordinating the Tennis Ladder, for helping with the Golf Outing, for coordinating the sell of HTC tee shirts, for helping deliver the club's new gas grill, for coordinating the Center vs Center cookout, and for helping with the Court 1 & 2 project; **Roz Hampton** for coordinating the Ladies Doubles League; **Norma Sims** for running the May social; **Pete Kjeldsen** for running the August social; **Deloris Becker** for periodically providing the yummy shrimp; **Mike Robinson** for directing for the Virginia State 45's tournament, and for helping coordinate the annual Center vs Center event; **Robert Lee** for rebuilding the backboard; **Billy Davis** for his welding expertise; **Jay Wendell** for helping coordinate the Club vs Club competition and for helping with the Court 1 & 2 project; **Billy Rew**, **Bob Murray** and **Horst Ripperger** for helping with the Court 1 & 2 project; **Lou Garcia** for spearheading the Court 1 & 2 project and for helping deliver the club's new gas grill; **Davis Blalock**, **Glenn White** and **Craig Murphrey** for help painting the clubhouse; **Len Credeur** for help painting the clubhouse and for helping with the Court 1 & 2 project; **Agnes Evans** for planting shrubs in front of the clubhouse; **Gwen Holt** for helping with court preparation; **Ron Comeaux**, **Linda Even** and **Debbie Carrithers** for helping coordinate the annual Center vs Center event; **Kim Reardon**, **Doug Lising**, **Rene Lising**, **Rol Johnson**, **Linda Even**, **Oliver** and **Debbie Carrithers** for running a social; **Debi Dowdy** for keeping the clubhouse in such good shape; **Barry McDade** for supplying the club with ice cream; **Ron Harvey** for organizing the Senior Doubles League; **Chip Booth** for helping Ron Harvey with the Senior League while Ron was on vacation; **Tom Farmer** for serving as captain of Hilton's Seniors Doubles team; and **Bill Abeyounis** for serving as tournament referee for the Virginia State 45's. Every year the list of volunteers grows. If there is something you would like to volunteer for, let me know.

Courts and Grounds: Because of the leadership of Lou Garcia and the generosity of Steve Barrs and C.A. Barrs Construction, courts 1 & 2 were completely rebuilt this last Fall. The project is almost finished and the courts will be ready for play this Spring.

Membership: The Board of Directors has set **March 15, 2007**, as the deadline for returning senior members to renew their membership. Dues received after this date must be accompanied by a \$10.00 late fee.

It was a good year for membership. Our membership jumped from 104 senior members in 2005 to 122 senior members in 2006. If you know someone who might be interested in joining, either give them an application or direct them to the HTC website (<http://members.cox.net/simsdn/htc>).

Annual Spring Workparty: Our annual Spring Workparty will be held on **Saturday, March 24**, at 9:00 AM (rain date is March 31). Your attendance at this event is necessary in order to get the grounds in good shape. Support Hilton Tennis Club and make every effort to attend! Please bring your own yard tools since the club has limited supply of these items. In particular, bring tools for raking leaves and trimming shrubs. As usual, lunch and all your favorite beverages will be provided.

E-Mail: I will continue using email to communicate with the membership. If you use email, I encourage you to include the address on the membership renewal form.

Tournaments / Leagues / Socials: This year Hilton Tennis Club will continue to host the State 45's tournament. As usual we will be having monthly socials beginning in April. A complete list of all socials and tournaments will be posted in the clubhouse and on our website. If you would like to help run a social this year, contact Glenn Murphrey. Glenn Murphrey, Bob Spooner, and Brooks Ryno will again be running the Thursday Evening Men's Doubles League which will begin in April. I will send out an email later this Spring with the exact date. If you want to join this league, contact Glenn, Bob, or Brooks by April 2. Linda Even and Norma Sims will run the Ladies Doubles League. If you want to join the league or need more information about it, call Linda. Hilton Tennis Club plans to participate in the annual Center vs Center event. If anyone is interested in forming a new league, the chair of the Tennis Committee, Glenn Murphrey, must approve it. Hilton Tennis Club will be having another golf tournament this year. Glenn Murphrey, Andy Mueller and Ron Comeaux will be organizing this event. More information will come later.

Tennis Ladder: For 2007 we will continue to use the A / B Ladder format. The "A" Ladder will be open to all players at all levels but is primarily designed for players whose singles ability level is 4.5 or higher (NTRP rating scale). "B" Ladder will only be used by those whose singles ability level is 4.0 or below. Congratulations to Will Haigler for winning the "A" division and to Doug Lising for winning the "B" division on the 2006 ladder. As is traditional, the 2007 ladder season will open on April 15. Andy Mueller will be coordinating the ladder.

Other Items: Remember that the most important factor in keeping our courts in the best possible shape is staying off the courts when they are too wet. If in doubt, stay off! Another important factor is using proper clay court tennis shoes. Shoes with the lug soles will not be allowed.

Dan Sims, Norma Sims, and Debi Dowdy will be returning as the club's grounds keepers.

As indicated in the Court and Ground Rules, it is required to post your starting time on the chalkboard before beginning play. Have a great season!

Dan Sims

President