

# *Hilton Tennis Club Newsletter*

February 14, 2008

Welcome to another season of tennis at Hilton Tennis Club. The 2008 members of the Board of Directors are:

Dan Sims (President), Ron Comeaux (Secretary), Billy Haigler (Treasurer), David Blalock, Andy Mueller, Glenn Murphrey, Mike Robinson, Norma Sims, Jay Wendell

Committee assignments:

**Membership Committee:** Dan Sims (Chair)

**Finance Committee:** Billy Haigler (Chair)

**Tennis Committee:** Glenn Murphrey (Chair), David Blalock, Norma Sims, Andy Mueller, Ron Comeaux

**Grounds Committee:** Mike Robinson (Chair), Glenn Murphrey, Dan Sims, Jay Wendell

**Thanks:** I would like to thank all the **Board Members** for all their hard work in making the 2007 season such a success. In particular, I would like to thank **Linda Even** for serving on the Board for the last 6 years. I want to also thank **Carter Ficklen** whose has served on the Board for many years. Carter has held many leadership positions, including President while on the Board.

I would also like to thank the following people: **Glenn Murphrey** for coordinating all the tennis events, for coordinating the Golf Outing, for helping organize the popular Thursday evening doubles league, helping with all the court light problems, for helping with the instructional clinic, and for a multitude of other things that are too long to list; **Bob Spooner** and **Brooks Ryno** for scheduling the Thursday evening doubles league; **Andy Mueller** for coordinating the Tennis Ladder, for helping with the Golf Outing; **Norma Sims** for coordinating the Ladies League and for planting all the flowers and helping our club look good; **Pete Kjeldsen** and **Will Haigler** for helping with the instructional clinic; **Mike Robinson** for directing for the Virginia State 45's tournament, for running the May social, and for buying the brick pavers for the flower garden; **Agnes Evans** for running the May social; **Jay Wendell** for helping repair the court lights; **Ron Comeaux** for helping coordinate the Golf Outing; **Linda Even**, **Rol Johnson**, **Doug Lising**, and **Rene Lising** for running the August social; **Debi Dowdy** for keeping the clubhouse in such good shape and helping maintain the shrubs; **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; **Glenn White** for subbing in for Tom Farmer. I try to keep a list of "things" that people do for the club, but sometimes I forget to add them to the list. If I omitted anyone from my list of "thank you's", I apologize. If there is something you would like to volunteer for, let me know.

**Courts and Grounds:** This Spring all four courts will be top dressed and new lines will be put down. The courts lights on courts 1 and 2 will be repaired in early Spring.

**Membership:** The Board of Directors has set **March 15, 2008**, 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. Our membership for 2007 was 117 senior members. 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 22**, at 9:00 AM (rain date is March 29). Your attendance at this event is necessary in order to get the courts and 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. Our main job this year is to prepare the

courts for new line tapes. This will involve removing the old line tapes, scraping the courts, and putting down new clay. As usual, lunch 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:** The members of the tennis committee have put together a full schedule this year. The first social will be on Saturday, May 5 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Golf Outing** will take place sometime in June. Also on May 17 we will have a **Member/Guest** tournament. When the dates of all the events are finalized, I will send everyone a complete list. 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. Norma Sims will run the Ladies Doubles League. If you want to join the league or need more information about it, call Norma. If anyone is interested in forming a new league, the chair of the Tennis Committee, Glenn Murphrey, must approve it.

**Tennis Ladder:** For 2008 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 again to Will Haigler for winning the "A" division and to Carter Ficklen for winning the "B" division on the 2007 ladder. As is traditional, the 2008 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.

Debi Dowdy will be returning as the club's house keeper. Dan Sims will continue to serve as the grounds keeper, but is looking for people to periodically help with the grass cutting. Jay Wendell has volunteered to help with this. It would be nice to have one more volunteer. If you are interested, let me know.

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