

The Latest Racket

The Bartlesville Tennis Association Newsletter - November 2003

www.bartlesvilletennisassociation.org

Letter from the President

"Annual Banquet and Business Meeting Plans have been finalized for the annual business meeting and banquet at Montana Mike's Steakhouse, Thursday, 6:30pm November 13. Reservations with menu selections must be called in or emailed to any board member by Thursday, November 6, using the contact information in the Board of Directors list. A menu place card will be on the table for ordering when you get there.

Montana Mike's Steakhouse Annual Banquet Menu

Mike's Dinner Salad \$4.69

Chicken Pasta Alfredo \$7.29

Mountain Momma Ribeye \$11.99

Mountain Top Chicken Breast \$8.49

Mike's Atlantic Salmon \$9.99

Meat entrees include salad, roll, choice of potato or green beans. Drinks and desserts will be paid for by BTA

Door prizes will be given away. League champions and special awardees will be recognized. Board of Directors will give their final reports for this year. Next year's board members will be nominated and voted in.

One possible proposal to be discussed is that we create new positions on the Board of Directors for the organizers of the Senior Men's (Ted Lowe and Dale Tieszen, MWF mornings), Working Ladies (Kathy Jones, Tuesday evenings), and Mixed Doubles (Melinda Calnan and Stephanie Johnson, Friday nights). The individuals named have been organizing these play dates for some time now. I feel that they and these regular events should be recognized as official BTA functions. A second proposal will be that we form teams to represent Bartlesville and the BTA in out-of-town USTA sanctioned tournaments. Several of our members have already been doing this for some time.

October 4 Mixer Results This final mixer of 2003 was well attended by 23 people and the early morning did not quell anyone's appetite, as all the fruit, donuts and most of the drinks were consumed. Everyone had a good time and two newly returning members participated for the first time in.

Board Meeting October 13 The October board meeting was held at John Hensley's house and attended by six board members: Hensley, Vandeverg, Flowers, Hsing, Moll and Naylor.

Dorthy Maddux Memorial At the October board meeting the concensus was that we would prefer place new, suitably labeled benches at Johnstone courts as a memorial to Dorothy, rather than have a tree planted in her honor. Her family (Don Maddux) was contacted and agreed that this would be a more suitable memorial if that was our desire. The city has been contacted and agreed to provide replacement benches for the badly deteriorating ones now in use. We will reimburse the city for their cost from the funds donated for the memorial.

USTA Support and Participation During my tenure as president, I have begun inquiries into establishing a link to the USTA regional or district office. The intent has been to obtain their support in further developing interest in tennis and local participation. Closer ties to USTA should also give members opportunities to increase their level of play. We are what USTA calls a Community Tennis Association (CTA). One form of support is for USTA to provide a subsidy (\$5 recently) per player, another is awards for CTA outstanding participants and contributors. They also organize or provide seminars and training for local workshop and tournament leaders. Membership is also generally required to participate in USTA sanctioned tournaments.

Final Comments As I look back over these two years of my presidency, I find that I have enjoyed the experience but wish I could have done more. My life changed unexpectedly in May of last year as a result of the ConocoPhillips merger. Our subsequent traveling on family matters and as part of early retirement has at times limited my tennis playing and effectiveness in BTA leadership. I give my heartfelt thanks to the board of directors for their efforts and jobs well done, especially when I had to be gone.

The BTA SunFest booth we've done for these last two years would not have been possible without the board and many other BTA members participating. This event has also resulted in BTA owning a quality portable booth (or gazebo or sunshade) and other items which will help our future public relations efforts and club events.

Other accomplishments include a survey of member needs for tournaments and organized play. We also developed and produced a BTA logo T-shirt for members to purchase and use to represent our organization. (Some Tees are still available - call a board member to get one. They are offered at cost, \$12)

While some members have moved away, we' ve added many new, younger members and contacts over this time, in particular due to Jon Lynch' s efforts as Mens League organizer and Keith Naylor' s work creating and updating our website. The website now contributes to attracting new members, as well as providing calendar, league results and other info for our members.

John Hensley, BTA President 2002-2003”

2003 BTA Officers

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Men's Fall Doubles Season

Stellar play has been the norm in the Fall Doubles Season! We had 24 Regulars on the Roster and have used 13 Substitutes in playing an 8 week schedule.

We hit the courts every Thursday night, using 3 courts each at Johnstone and Sooner. To name just a few, Stan Hanes, Tushar Choudhary, and Marty Puckett have been hitting winners left and right! We truly have a fun, energetic, and dedicated group of tennis enthusiasts!

To recap the Summer Singles Season, Jim Winslow let a strong contingent of 25 Regulars by putting on yet another athletic display (just like last year), going 8 for 8 in his matches!

All in all, it's been an excellent tennis year!

Regards,
Jon Lynch, Men's Director

November 2003

BTA
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