



**SENIORS TENNIS ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHSORE INC. 1988**
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President's Report

Variath Kutty

The year 2015 is almost over! Our Christmas Social/Tennis is on Sunday, December 6. We expect a big turnout – do come play some tennis, meet and chat with friends and make new friends.

As directed by our general body at our last meeting, I wrote to Recreation Commission, asking for senior's discount for tennis at North Vancouver Tennis Centre. Unfortunately, our request was turned down. They argued that the centre was built on a cost-recovery business model, as proposed by the tennis community. They advise that discounting fees for seniors would require subsidization from taxpayers, contrary to the cost-recovery model.

I would like to thank my fellow executives and our many kind volunteers for their help. This year our annual picnic had to be postponed due to rain. The following day was dry and we had a number of players who turned out to play. Pari Koch worked very hard to make this a success. As always, John Kennedy is there for us with a big smile, be it to carry the heavy coffee dispenser or provide amusing write ups and candid photos. Thank you both.

STANS EXECUTIVES

Variath Kutty - President and Newsletter
Ron Ranquist – Programs
Don Mackinlay – Treasurer
Denis Martell – Membership Chair
Judith Bicknell – Joint Secretary/Cards and Social
Pari Koch - Publicity/Social
Bella Tata – Joint Secretary/Social
Francoise De Pauw – Chair: Membership Committee, Electronic Communications

Tom Laughlin – Director at large, Membership Committee Member

NEW MEMBERS

Denis Martell, our Membership Chairman, reports that there has not been much activity on the membership front since our last Newsletter.

Welcome to STANS . . . and if you or any reader of this Newsletter knows people who play tennis, we would love to welcome them as new members. Please direct them to our website www.seniorstennis.ca where an application form can be downloaded. Or call any member of your Executive and we'll send a membership application.

Membership Renewal: January-December 2016

Now's the time to do it! A registration form for the 2016 year is included with this Newsletter. All members wishing to continue their membership are asked to complete the form, sign and mail it, together with the \$20.00 per person fee, to the address shown on the form. Please do this before the end of December. You can also hand in your membership form and cheque at the Xmas Social on December 6th.

PICNIC AND ROUND ROBIN

John Kennedy

**A drop fell on the apple tree,
Another on the roof;
A half a dozen kissed the eaves,
And made the gables laugh.**

(Emily Dickinson 1830-1886)

It was the summer of 2015, record heat, stage three water restrictions, drought conditions pretty much everywhere in BC. But nothing comes without a silver lining, in our case, day after summer day of great tennis weather. Nothing could stand in the way of a STANS Picnic and Round-robin, not even rain. Well, the rain did come down rather heavily on Wednesday August 5th 2015, causing our STANS executive group to postpone our annual outing until Thursday. And Thursday began with only modest promise. A forecast of showers and darkened skies turned out to be accurate, except for the showers part, thank goodness. A hardy bunch of STANS players showed up at the still-under-reconstruction Murdo Frazer courts...the snazzy washrooms promised much but could not yet deliver...and they took up all the green space that used to be our gathering spot. Undaunted, STANS Exec members made space under the trees and used the pathway as our picnic spot. Five courts were in play and some very good tennis was seen, despite the dampness of the courts. This year's winner of the Brenda Sacre Memorial trophy was Wei Pitchford. Everyone went home with prizes, thanks to the generosity of many small business owners in the neighbourhood and the hard work of Pari Koch who knocked on a lot of welcoming doors. Those people were: from Edgemont Village: KaBloom, 32 Books & Gallery, Viki's Hair Fashion, La Galleria Fine Food, Kidsbooks, Highland Chevron, Fresh Slice, Brenda at Capilano Barbers, Trims, Gift Works, Health Work, Cobs and Hair Work. The Bay at Park Royal, Starbucks in Pemberton Plaza, Gotto Grapes on Pemberton and Dog's Ear in West Van together with Karin and Frank Scheuermeyer rounded out the list. We thank them for their generous support.

INDOOR TENNIS AT THE NORTH VANCOUVER TENNIS CENTRE
Ron Ranquist

STANS has again booked the NVTC for early morning indoor tennis from Monday to Friday. I have the assistance of our devoted Court Captains to run these programs. Many thanks to John Kennedy, Shirley Young, Will Phillips, Don Mackinlay and their subs.

This year we only have booked two courts for Friday, as we only had eight committed players.

We are pleased to advise that STANS members may now play on reserved Courts 1 and 2 at Cloverly between 1 pm and 3 pm, Monday to Friday. A few hard-core outdoor tennis enthusiasts play there whenever it is dry weather. Interested players are welcome to join them at Cloverly.



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CHRISTMAS TENNIS/SOCIAL

The Christmas Social and Round-Robin will take place at the North Vancouver Tennis Centre (280 Lloyd Ave) on Sunday, December 6, 2014. All STANS members are cordially invited to attend, whether or not you want to play tennis that evening.

Time:
 6:30 pm: Registration
 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm: Play
 9:00pm-: Social
 Cost: \$10.00 for players, \$4.00 for party only

As well as good tennis, there'll be lots of friendly people to socialize with before Christmas and we'd be delighted to have you join us. Light refreshments will be provided by STANS.

We look forward to seeing a large turn out this year.

Please tell us if you are coming by calling or emailing Ron Ranquist on or before November 30th (Ronranq@hotmail.com - Phone 604-980-2911)



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STANS HAS A WEBSITE

Our website may be accessed by typing: www.seniorstennis.ca
Francoise is working on an improved website, which should be ready early in the New Year.

She has also created a Facebook Page for STANS. There are many photos from our Picnic and 55+Games. You do not need a Facebook account to access: type <https://www.facebook.com/stanstennis/> and you will reach the page.

Laurette Huff of STANS

One of the many pleasant aspects of the STANS Picnic and Round-robin is that there's time to chat with people and find out a little about them. Usually when I play tennis, we're so busy playing and trying to remember the score that there's very little time left over to socialize. This year I had a chance to chat with several people, one of whom was Laurette Huff who I first met (if memory serves) at the 2014

STANS Picnic and Round-robin and with whom I've had a chance to play from time to time.

Laurette and her husband Gordon spend their winters in Arizona and Laurette gets to play a lot of tennis while she's there. This past winter she was part of a team of 8 women who spent several days in Palm Springs/Palm Desert/Indian Wells playing in a large tennis competition. There were 400 women (and 400 men) competing in the PNB Paribas Senior Open Tennis Tournament. Teams competed in several categories, in this case, Women 3.5 and 4.0 and Super Women 3.5 and 4.0. Laurette was part of a team called The Arizona Sweets that competed in the Super Women (women over 60) 3.5 category. Games were played over four days. Play for the first three days was round-robin with each team expected to play between two and four matches each day. Competition ranged from tough to fierce, civility was much in evidence, and to this writer's surprise, there were few, if any, temper flare-ups. Everyone had a great time.

Laurette loved the camaraderie of the occasion as much as the competition. One of the traditions of The Senior Open sees players giving gifts of friendship to their opposition team members and Laurette's team spent a couple of days together making jam for that purpose. Carol Rice, (the woman holding the cup in the team photo) was not only Captain of The Arizona Sweets (whose ages ranged from 63 to 80), it was she who drove the team to California, organised their hotel and arranged to use the hotel's tennis courts to practice every morning before setting off to the competition courts. Team members were warmed up, pumped and ready for action. And they did well.

Points were awarded for each game won with an extra point for sets won. On the night of day 3, teams who won the most points were to be notified that they had reached the semi-finals. The Arizona Sweets got the call. Now all that remained was to get out there on day 4 and do it all over again.

Day 4 began in full sunshine and a continuing heat wave in the area. Tension was high as was anticipation. Those of you who have met Laurette will know that she exudes calm and confidence, two very useful attributes in a competition. The match

format was three sets, the first two of which were regular sets and the third set would be settled in a 7-game match. Set #1 went to The Arizona Sweets. Set #2 went to their opposition, Crème de la Court from Palm Springs. And the third set went to The Arizona Sweets. Their win earned them a tournament total of 212 points and when the handshakes came, the Arizona Sweets had won the day, champions in the Super Women 3.5 class, one point ahead of the second place team, the Love Bugs and two points ahead of the MS Fits, both teams that the Arizona Sweets had defeated along the way.

The winners each received a beautiful bowl inscribed with the words: BNP PARIBAS OPEN SENIOR CUP CHAMPION 2015. And they all took home some great memories.

Post Script: At the recent BC Senior's Games held in North Vancouver, Laurette Huff and her partner Danny Garinger from Abbotsford took the mixed doubles championship in the 75-79 age group. I think I'm going to ask her to give me a lesson.



ARIZONA SWEETS

Cammie MacKinlay of STANS

STANS member Cammi MacKinlay has another hobby that she is passionate about – singing! Cammi sings with Lions Gate Chorus, a 90 member group who sing a capella in the barbershop style with Sweet Adelines International, the world's largest singing organization for women (23,000 members). Cammi



recently returned from Las Vegas, Nevada, where her chorus competed with 34 other choruses from around the world. She is now proudly sporting a fifth place medal! This “Olympics of singing” event was held at the MGM Grand and had almost 7000 attendees. To see the chorus performing in the finals, click here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtTwowAKP68&index=6&list=PLuzBVBSdPjYgigKcW54Zy16iNGaic4JSh> (Cammi is dressed like a chef.)

JOHN WILLIAMS TROPHY

This year's award winner is Shant Mardikian.



STANS GRANT RECIPIENT

Although we reported the name of the Grant Recipient from North Vancouver Tennis Center in our June Newsletter, a photograph was not included. Below is Pari Koch with grant recipient Stefan Mitrovic.



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55+ BC GAMES

Denis Martell participated in 55+BC Games. He writes:

“I participated in the 2015 Seniors’ Games held in North Vancouver. Diane Coombs and I registered to play in the mixed doubles and although we did not win any trophies, we thoroughly enjoyed the experience as we met a number of tennis players from other parts of the Province and had our first taste of competitive tennis.”

Thinking ahead, he is proposing that STANS members should consider organizing pairs now for both mixed doubles and men’s and women’s doubles. If there is interest in doing this to be ready to compete in next year’s games to be held in Coquitlam, please let us know.

I understand the following STANS members won medals in 55+ Games. Congratulations to them. (If I have omitted anyone please let me know and I shall include them in our next Newsletter.)

Women's Doubles: (Silver) - WD 60

Dana Audet
Francoise De Pauw

Mixed Doubles: (Gold) - XD 70

Sharon Moxon
Wolfgang Sollors

Mixed Doubles (Gold) - XD 75

Danny Garinger
Lorette Huff

Many of our members volunteered for 55+Games. I have a partial list only and they are: Elaine, June, Dave, Janett, and Françoise. Thank you.

Please visit Facebook page STANS to see photos from 55+ Games.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are saddened to learn John Boston passed away on August 19, 2015. His friend and tennis partner Bob Hardman remembers him.

John Boston - 1935 - 2015

What a great guy!

Curious, kind, optimistic, witty and yes, a tad eccentric (a bit like his serve). John led life to the fullest while he enjoyed his various adventures and passions. He was great at amusing us after tennis with anecdotes of his life.

After getting kicked out of Bristol University Veterinary School, he fled to Canada to drive an oil truck in the Arctic, then on to McGill graduating from Dentistry School. After spending 20 years as a Major in the Canadian Army, he retired to run a Beeffalo ranch in Chilliwack. John considered all this great fun and in his spare time he managed to build (by hand) one house and 3 canoes.

His love of music resulted in he and Marilyn attending 34 musical events on a 35-day trip to Europe. They probably spent their spare time hiking and biking Austria! It also drove him to study the violin but John agreed the time would have been better spent working on his backhand.

He's gone now. We'll miss him and his sense of humour very much!



*PHOTO
GALLERY*

