



**SENIORS TENNIS ASSOCIATION
OF THE NORTHSORE INC. 1988**
c/o Delbrook Community Centre
600 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, B.C. V7N 2L3

E-mail: ns.seniorstennis@gmail.com Website: www.seniorstennis.ca

ISSUE NUMBER 98

NOVEMBER 2016

President's Report

Variath Kutty

The year end is almost upon us! Our Christmas Social/Tennis is Saturday, 10th December 2016. We expect a big turnout – do come play some tennis, meet and chat with friends and make new friends.

The use of Delbrook land was the subject of much discussion. We are hoping the three tennis courts in Delbrook will continue to be made available to tennis players. The District authorities are studying the various options.

I take this opportunity to thank my fellow executives and our many kind volunteers for their help. This year's picnic was a huge success. Pari Koch was amazing in contacting the businesses in Edgemont Boulevard and she had collected enough prizes for almost all players. Pari opened the sandwich/snacks bar earlier this year and by the end of the day, there was no food left! Francoise De Pauw and John Kennedy took pictures of the event. Several of these pictures were posted on our Facebook page.

STANS EXECUTIVES

Variath Kutty – President and Newsletter
Ron Ranquist – Programs
Don Mackinlay – Treasurer
Denis Martell – Membership Chair
Pari Koch – Vice President/Publicity-Social
Francoise De Pauw –
 Chair: Membership Committee
 Electronic Communications
Tom Laughlin – Director at Large
Heidi Juergens – Director at Large
David Courville – Director at Large

We are sorry that Judith had to leave our Board due to health reasons. Judith has been such a helpful director. I thank her for her services and wish her all the best. We have asked David Courville to join our board, to which he has graciously agreed.

NEW MEMBERS

We had fifteen new members join us in 2016. Our posters at various tennis courts (thanks to Pari and John Kennedy) are helping to reach more tennis players as shown by the increase in new members. Despite this, our total membership is in decline and we want all of you to help recruit new members.

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 Christmas Social on December 10th.

COMBINED APPLIANCES

PARTS, SERVICE & INSTALLATIONS SINCE 1955

SERVICING:
VANCOUVER, BURNABY & NORTH SHORE TO WHISTLER

1395 PEMBERTON AVENUE, NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. V7P 2R6
TEL. 604-987-2251 FAX. 604-987-2229
SQUAMISH 604-882-2251
EMAIL: combined@infinet.net

PICNIC AND ROUND ROBIN

John Kennedy

Wednesday August 10, 2016. Showers had been predicted for days...but none arrived. Once again the weather forecasters came to the aid of STANS members. Cloud cover made for perfect tennis weather and the temperature was just right too.

Under the leadership of Kutty (Variath M. Kutty for those in the know), Ron Ranquist, Head of Programming for STANS and Court Captain for the round-robin, conducted his band of friendly seniors in a morning of sprightly tennis and good companionship. And a flock of players new to STANS arrived to join in the fun.

The familiar but sometimes feared yellow poster-sized court and player assignment sheets were attached to the fence of court three and players clustered around in what this writer was tempted to call confusion. But unlike what happened in earlier years, this year most players seemed to get it. No noticeable confusion and no arguing about who was supposed to be where and where the heck is #35?

There were, as usual, some lost souls but they were embraced by the more “senior” of STANS’ cohort and gently led to their appointed courts. Doubling up (and thanks to all who helped by playing in every set) made it all go smoothly and a good time was had by all. Lunch arrived just in time and was a highlight. All appetites were sated (well, maybe not all appetites, he said, chuckling/remembering) and there were enough sweets for dessert to keep even the toughest luncheon critics smiling.

Prize-giving is always a highlight of STANS round-robins and this year’s was no exception. Pretty

much everyone who distinguished themselves on the courts scored a prize, thanks to the persuasive powers of STANS Vice President Pari Koch and the generosity of the many merchants she approached who agreed to support seniors tennis by offering their wares. Those sponsors are:

- Gift Works
- Ka Bloom
- 32 Books
- Kids Books
- Co Co Froyo
- Rosa Floral Design
- Paws & Claws Pantry
- Edgemont Gourmet Meats
- Cobs
- Bjornbar Bakery
- Health Works
- Pzazz Gifts Ltd.
- Starbucks
- David’s Tea
- Travel Concept
- Chevron
- Gotto Grapes
- Dog’s Ear
- Capilano Barber
- Wholly Noggin (Whole Food Natural Bar)
- Karin & Frank Scheuermeyer (Gift donation)

Our thanks to each and every one of our donors.

The day’s action wrapped up with this year’s presentation of the Brenda Sacre Trophy. This year’s winner was Janet Siet.

We now look forward to the fall/winter indoor season at the North Vancouver Tennis Centre where early-morning players will share pre-dawn laughter and good games with their fellow STANS members.

JHK

November 2016



 PREMIER ALL-COURT SPORTS STORE
 TENNIS RACKET STRINGING 1217 Nanaimo Street, Vancouver

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.

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.

CHRISTMAS TENNIS/SOCIAL

The Christmas Social and Round-Robin will take place at the North Vancouver Tennis Centre (280 Lloyd Ave) on Saturday, December 10, 2016. 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),

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Pari Koch. She is now a proud grandmother to Sasha David Dalibor Koch, who arrived on October 12, 2016.




Alf Orr
604-961-5851

*Experience you need
 Integrity you can trust*

*YOUR Northshore
 Real Estate Specialist*

US OPEN 2016 AS SEEN BY A STANS MEMBER

John Kennedy

**Harlem, Tuesday
 August 30, 2016.**

Day 2 of the 2016 US Open Tennis Championships.

Dawn breaks and a heat wave insinuates



itself into the aging body of yours truly. We're off to the subway and then Penn Station to catch the Long Island Railroad for the forty-minute ride to Flushing Meadows and the tennis courts for an afternoon of exciting competition, crowds of enthusiastic New Yorkers from all over the world and lots of water to ward off heat stroke. I'm attending with youngest son Paul, daughter-in-law Krista and grandchildren Jack (8) and Phoebe (6) with whom I am spending what turns out to be a delightful 5 days in NYC.

Arrival and entry are remarkably easy to navigate. A pedestrian walkway leads to a multitude of gates with the usual security checks and about ten entry lines so we were inside in less than 20 minutes after leaving the train. Once inside, gawking is allowed and perhaps encouraged...the array of food options, offering pretty much anything your cholesterol level can manage, already going strong at 11:15...places to buy stuff with what I swear is the world's most boring selection of tennis wear (with the possible exception of a very cool shirt similar to one we were to see later worn by Verdasco). He's a good-looking guy and looked great in it, but lost to Wawrinka anyway. I would have looked not-so-great in it and would have had to put up with way

too many caustic comments on the North Shore courts. Saved about \$50 US with that decision.

We have tickets for this afternoon's play and we're going to try to get a taste of all the Open has to offer. The place is spread out with 17 outside courts and 6 practice courts plus the Grandstand, Louis Armstrong stadium (both offer close-up looks at the competitors) and Arthur Ashe stadium, (the largest and most steeply raked, putting those of us in the not-so-cheap seats a long way from the players). For us the competition begins with a look at Eugenie Bouchard who is playing well when we arrive but is eventually bested by her Czech rival Katerina Siniakova on the blistering hot Grandstand court. This is where Eugenie had her fall and consequent concussion last year. I hope her issues get sorted out. She's an impressive athlete.

We then head out for a bite to eat before going into Arthur Ashe to watch 3rd seeded Stan Wawrinka beat Fernando Verdasco 7-6, 6-4, 6-4. That may sound like an easy win, but Wawrinka spent a heck of a lot of time glancing at his coach for support when shots went bad. We saw 6th seeded Venus Williams beat Ukraine's Kateryna Koslova in the same venue, then back to the Grandstand to watch 6th seeded Kei Nishikori give Benjamin Becker a tennis lesson. Then to Louis Armstrong for the del Potro vs fellow Argentinian Diego Schwartzmann match that del Potro won handily. Along the way we saw a bit of the Donaldson-Goffin match. David Goffin whom we first heard of and saw at the French Open in 2013 was seeded 12th here but lost anyway. He's one to watch. And another one to watch is the youngster from Montreal who won the Junior Boys Singles title here, Felix Auger-Aliassima. (Wawrinka won that title here in 2003.)

For those of you with short memories, Stan Wawrinka beat Novak Djokovic in the Men's Singles final for his third Grand Slam. He won Australia in 2014 and France in 2015. Three pretty good years, I'd say.

STANS HAS A WEBSITE

Our website may be accessed by typing: www.seniorstennis.ca. Francoise has done much to

improve the look of our website. She has also created a Facebook page for STANS. There are many photos from our picnic there and she posts other interesting news as it happens. You do not need a Facebook account to access: just type <https://www.facebook.com/stanstennis/> and you will reach our page.

STANS MEMBER SURVEY – SUMMER 2016

We conducted a quick online survey of STANS members to get an idea of how they feel about the current services and activities of STANS. The 40 members who responded seem to be quite satisfied with the opportunities to play social tennis that STANS offers both outdoors and indoors, and would support some potential expansion of those services for the future. Suggestions included: a couple more social play/eat events like the Christmas party and picnic; joint play with other Clubs or at local or exotic resorts; some organized competitive play; reserved courts for evening play in addition to morning play; and continued pressure on the municipalities to properly maintain their courts. For more details, have a look at the short report posted on the STANS website. Sincere thanks to all members who took time to fill out the survey.

Don Mackinlay

RETIRE-AT-HOME
SERVICES

In Need of Extra Care?

Providing Premium Home Care for over 20 years!

- Dementia Care
- Live-In Care
- Companionship
- Personal Care
- Nursing Care

...So much more!

604-998-1628
www.retireathomeNS.com

JOHN WILLIAMS TROPHY

This year's winner is Aron Pilbart.



GRANTS TO YOUNG PLAYERS

We granted our cash grant of \$500 each to Aron Pilbart and Angie Walker. A photo of Angie was included in our June Newsletter. A photograph of Pari handing our cheque to Aron is given below:



55+ Games held in Coquitlam, BC, in September 2016

Heidi Juergens and Christine Colbow of the North Shore Table Tennis Club won the gold in the women's doubles 75-79 category in table tennis. We congratulate Heidi, who is a STANS member and Executive.

ANNOUNCEMENT

We are saddened to learn that Ollie Helm passed away on 22nd September 2016 while vacationing in Cuba. Elmer Helm was on the Board of STANS and is a life member. Their family friend John Bishop writes:

Sad News for the North Shore and Vancouver Tennis Community

Olga Mary Helm, January 15th, 1927--September 22, 2016. Ollie passed away peacefully while sunbathing in Cuba beside Elmer, the love of her life and husband of 66 years. A matriarch, dedicated to her family, Ollie was mother to Ramona (Tom), Dan (Cheryl), Ken (Lori), Denise (Greg), Janet (Trevor) and Robert (Rosa), and delighted in her twelve grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Ollie grew up in Nanaimo where she met Elmer at a dance. Over the years they were admired by many for how they lit up the dance floor. Together they laughed and loved, played tennis, camped and traveled. Ollie enjoyed a wide circle of friends in the neighborhood, on the tennis courts, RV-ing in sunny destinations, at costume-theme parties and happy-hour gatherings.

Many in the North Shore and Vancouver Tennis Community will remember the team of Elmer and Ollie Helm in the BC Seniors Games each year during the 1990's and early 2000's. They both have been keen supporters of tennis on the North Shore for many years! Elmer continues to play a great game of tennis and it is wonderful to have him back on the courts!

Ollie will be forever loved and sadly missed! Her funeral was held on October 14th, at Holy Trinity Church in North Vancouver.

John Bishop



PHOTO GALLERY

