



# HOLLINGER NEWS

OCTOBER 2011

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I write this, it does not seem possible that the 2011 season is quickly coming to a close. Despite the hurdles that Mother Nature threw our way--ice storm, thunderstorms, extreme heat, and torrential downpours--it has been a good year at Hollinger with lots of "court time."

We began the year with new plans, new decisions, and new excitement. Our Director of Tennis, Sean McCaffrey, helped to keep the enthusiasm going with our new tournaments, involving *many* club members. The Junior Program did not materialize as originally anticipated, so ways to make it grow are being considered. Our Holiday Mixers continued to be very well attended; the Friday night parties organized by Jerry Sanders remained a hit; and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Tournament netted \$1300 - another success organized by Victoria Buckner and Chris Pinkelman.

Our membership numbers continue to be a focus of the Board. Yes, our numbers dropped this year; but with your help, we have gained some new members in the past couple of months. Please continue to help recruit, which is our main avenue for the long term survival of the Club.

Financially, we are stable for *now*. I am most pleased to report that we should end the year in the black. But as the new year begins, we will face the same concerns of membership attrition and a decrease in revenue. Without the generosity of our 12 patrons and other members' donations this year, we may have faced a deficit.

At the Annual Meeting on Labor Day, three new trustees were approved by the membership. Dave Ashcraft, Dan Gentry, and Cynthia Verbinski will join the Board in October. Thank you for saying "yes", and WELCOME!! Kaitlyn Edwards was also approved to return as the Junior Representative.

The Board will lose 3 valuable members this year. John Rudisill served a 3-year term as Membership Chair; Jo Smith served two 3-year terms as Communications Chair, responsible for the newsletters and all those email notices;

and Bob Reece served his first 3-year term as Membership Chair, then 2 years of his second 3-year term as President. Your service is most appreciated, and you will be missed!

The Club continues to be in the best shape possible, due to the watchful eye of our Manager, Jerry Sanders. Take a moment and look around--you will be surprised to discover all the subtle improvements that Jerry has made. Thank you, Jerry, for all your time and commitment above and beyond your role as manager.

THANK YOU ALL for your support this year--whether you were a patron, gave a donation, a Board member, participated in a tournament, attended any of our mixers or parties, brought guests, and/or secured a new member. It takes ALL of us to make Hollinger the best clay court Club in town.

Have a good winter--and use that time to think of potential new members. See you in the spring!

*-Nancy Shelton, Board President*

## HOLLINGER'S PIE AUCTION!



*Tom Morgan (left) gave apples to Chris Vradelis to bake some of her famous pies to bring to the Labor Day potluck; after the meeting, one leftover pie was auctioned off and Blitz Creager took home a delicious \$30 Apple Pie!*

WEBSITE: [www.HollingerTennis.com](http://www.HollingerTennis.com)

## 2012 Board of Trustees

**President** – Nancy Shelton ([JSHEL17298@aol.com](mailto:JSHEL17298@aol.com))

**Vice President/Activities** -- Victoria Buckner ([vctbuckn@aol.com](mailto:vctbuckn@aol.com))

**Secretary** – Suzanne Garrison ([suzanne.kelly-garrison@wright.edu](mailto:suzanne.kelly-garrison@wright.edu))

**Treasurer** -Diana Sanders ([DianaMSanders@gmail.com](mailto:DianaMSanders@gmail.com))

Steve Barbadora ([sbarbadora@yahoo.com](mailto:sbarbadora@yahoo.com))

Julie Thomes ([jthomes@woh.rr.com](mailto:jthomes@woh.rr.com))

**Junior Rep** -- Kaitlyn Edwards ([kedwards829@gmail.com](mailto:kedwards829@gmail.com))

Brian Davis ([bkdavis5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bkdavis5@sbcglobal.net))

Chris Pinkelman ([cpinkelman@tcn-bhs.org](mailto:cpinkelman@tcn-bhs.org))

Harry Vearn ([hvearnirongate@aol.com](mailto:hvearnirongate@aol.com))

Dave Ashcraft ([deashcraft@gmail.com](mailto:deashcraft@gmail.com))

Dan Gentry ([gentry@coollaw.com](mailto:gentry@coollaw.com))

Cynthia Verbinski ([cverbinski@woh.rr.com](mailto:cverbinski@woh.rr.com))

## CLUB MANAGER NOTES



The old cliché “time flies when you’re having fun” certainly applies to this season. Most of us were having fun and we all wish that we had couple more months of outdoor tennis. But all good things come to an end--at least until next April.

The courts were as good as anyone can remember and in the case of some of our senior members, that’s quite a compliment. It’s also said that behind every good man is a good woman. Well in this case three good women and a couple of guys. Please join me in thanking Nancy, Kaitlyn, Carly, Dan and Sean for an outstanding job with keeping the courts in fantastic shape. Without them the courts would not have been in the shape they were this season.

We had a couple of ‘firsts’ this season. Nancy not only worked more than any other employee (on and off the clock) but also served the Club as President. It proved an exceptional pairing as she interacts with all the members on an almost daily basis and is very in tune to your input about the Club. The other first was having an active collegiate coach as our director of tennis. His excellent tennis and teaching skills offered our members a unique opportunity to improve their games. Sean not only gave lessons, clinics, and directed tournaments but also worked on the staff doing court maintenance. Both Sean and Nancy were major contributors towards making this one of the best years ever.

And finally, thanks to all of you for your support, help, and friendship throughout the season. The positive and exciting atmosphere that started last year only grew better this year. I hope we will all keep the ball rolling next year and for years to come.

- Jerry Sanders, Club Manager

**PS:** All in-stock ‘play the clay’ clothes are on sale for 50% off while they last.



*Ladies Doubles group assembling for morning league.*

## Photos from Holiday Tournaments and Mixers



*Shero Ishaq and daughter Raaida*



*David Reece and new member, Tracy Hunt*



## TENNIS DIRECTOR'S CORNER



I wanted to take a moment and thank all of the Hollinger Club members for such a memorable summer. The wonderful thing about closing out a tennis season is that you then have the opportunity to reflect on the experiences you had, the tasks and accomplishments you undertook, and of course the friendships you enjoyed.

For me personally the summer was a chance to acquaint myself with some truly fantastic people that make Virginia Hollinger Memorial Tennis Club a true club atmosphere. What the membership has is an environment that just so happens to be set in one of the more ideal locations for a tennis facility, some of the most beautiful well maintained clay courts I have ever experienced, and a caring Club Manager and Board of Trustees to lead the way. The most amazing thing I learned during my first summer is that the club is not, nor should not, be identified solely by the state of the courts and grounds. That is simply a byproduct of what is most important. The caring guidance and conscientious planning the club leadership demonstrates proves that your club is less about the courts and more about the experience.

I urge all of the Club members to reach out to a friend who may be a non-member, or two, or three and invite them to attend a drill session or clinic, play doubles with your group, or participate in a round robin or tournament. Give those folks a chance to experience a little of what you already know and feel about Hollinger. I certainly believe there is strength in numbers and your club will only benefit with a few more “new faces” on the courts. Your game will improve by playing with different folks, your life will be a little more enriched by meeting new people, and your club will be stronger and better off for having more some new folks on the courts.

I want to thank Jerry and Nancy for a fantastic summer of 2011. Thanks to The Board of Trustees for allowing me the opportunity to spend some time with you all at Hollinger and having the chance to experience the nicest clay courts around. I look forward with great anticipation the 2012 outdoor season and returning back to your club to build a little more on solidifying Hollinger as THE place to “play the clay”.

  
Yours in tennis, Sean McCaffrey

## HOLLINGER TENNIS CLUB -- 2011 EVENTS SCHEDULE

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DAY/DATE(S)</u>	<u>TIME</u>
HOLLINGERWEEN PARTY & MIXER	Saturday, October 29	9:30 am – 1 pm
COURTS CLOSE	Tuesday, November 1 (weather permitting)	

As the year is winding down, we have one event remaining ... our annual tennis mixer and HOLLINGERWEEN party...Saturday morning Oct 29. There will be donuts to satisfy your sweet tooth before the tennis mixer at 9:30 am and a carry-in potluck lunch at noon. Don't forget to sign up at the Clubhouse and wear your favorite Halloween costume – there will be a prize for the “Best-Dressed”!



**Newsletter Editor's Note:** As I began preparing to publish this, my final newsletter for the great Hollinger Tennis Club, I went to our website to review previous newsletters over the past 6 years and recalled lots of good times at our beautiful facility. The Club has seen many changes as each year brings something new. Since most members now have e-mail, we can get more timely information out to everyone, but only if you keep the Board advised of changes in your e-mail address! If you are still getting your newsletter via “snail mail” but now have e-mail, I urge you to send your e-mail address to Jerry Sanders ([clubmanagervhmtc@gmail.com](mailto:clubmanagervhmtc@gmail.com)). It has been a pleasure serving on the Board of Trustees these past 6 years--I will miss the camaraderie and challenges. See you on the courts!

Sincerely with warmest wishes to you all, *Jo Smith*



*Labor Day Mixed Doubles players (September 5, 2011)*

**POTLUCK LUNCH ON LABOR DAY**



*Left to right: John Landen, Gary Williamson, Frank Gieszl, Mrs. Williamson, Don Hastings and Dave Garrison.*

**JDRF BENEFIT TOURNAMENT**



*Victoria Buckner and helper at prize table for the 3rd Annual Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Charity Tennis Tournament in August 2011.*

**ANNUAL MEETING ON LABOR DAY 2011**



*Nancy giving report at Annual Meeting on Labor Day, Sept. 5, 2011.*

**DESSERT, ANYONE??**



*Here's what you missed if you didn't attend our Labor Day potluck luncheon this year!*