



HOLLINGER NEWS

NOVEMBER 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2010 season proved to be another good year for Hollinger, in many ways. With the help of our members' recruiting and a "turn of the century" special opportunity, we increased our membership total to 172. The courts were in excellent condition - definitely the best clay courts in town! And the grounds and facilities were maintained and groomed equally well. Once again we had two USTA tournaments, the 2nd Annual Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Tournament (which raised \$1300 this year), and a junior program that remained stable. The holiday mixers were very well attended (sixty people on Labor Day), and our new Friday night parties were a big success. The year ended with our 2nd Annual Hollingerween Party with almost 40 in attendance! Court usage was definitely up this year, and the "racket in the rack" rule was used often. And I am pleased to announce that we will end the year in the black once again.

But all of the above only happened because of the time, dedication, diligence, and donations of many people. First of all, a sincere thank you to Bob Reece for his leadership the past two years as President. His tireless efforts to increase membership (always asking if someone plays tennis), and his focus on our fiscal soundness have helped put our club in the shape it is in today. And I would like to announce that "Bob is back!" He played tennis several times before the club closed.



Bob Reece congratulates Nancy Shelton

Thanks also go out to our club manager, Jerry Sanders, for all his hours to keep the club in the best shape possible. He spent innumerable hours in March preparing the courts, time before opening most days, and during hours when players were not around rolling the courts, fixing plumbing issues, painting, doing ground maintenance - and the list goes on.

Our tennis professional, Jim Grombacher, continued to run our tournaments, holiday mixers, and the junior program. Thank you, Jim, for your professional services. But with this thank you comes "good luck" and best wishes, as Jim has decided not to return to Hollinger next year. Jim, your students and the members will miss you - you've been a wonderful instructor.

Additional thanks to our ten Patrons (Dave & Leslie Ashcraft, Bill Clark, Tom & Mary Creager, Rolland & Carol Eaton, Rick & Ellie Klein, Steven Miller, John & Barbara Rion, Stanley & Peggy Sheriff, Tom Shulman, and Bud Weaver); Bob Neumeister (donation of grandstand roof); Dave Hodson (professional services); Chris Vradelis and Jane Rininger, and Board members for your help and support. With the close of the season, Suzanne Garrison, Annette Schmelling, Don and Ellene Prizler, Bob Reece, and Diana Sanders joined Jerry and me for a work day to clean the courts of nails - thank you all!

And to our Club members, your response to our survey of key issues was greatly appreciated. Even though this has been a wonderful year, there are challenges ahead of us. We will likely lose several members next year, so we must continue to recruit. And even though we'll end the year in the black, it isn't by a large margin. With your inputs from the survey, the Board is working to resolve those issues in a constructive way.

I would like to welcome Harry Vearn to the Board as a new trustee, as well as Kaitlyn Edwards, our new junior representative. As always, the Board faces new challenges, but I am looking forward to working with them to ensure the future and viability of the Club. This board is a group of dedicated and creative people.

I am most grateful for the personal support from so many of you. If you have any suggestions, questions, or concerns, please call me or someone on the Board. The Virginia Hollinger Memorial Tennis Club is a GEM, and it takes all of us to keep it that way. Have a wonderful holiday season!

-- Nancy Shelton, Board President

WEBSITE: www.HollingerTennis.com

2010-11 Board of Trustees

President – Nancy Shelton (JSHEL17298@aol.com)

Vice President/Activities -- Victoria Buckner

-- (victoria.buckner@khnetwork.org)

Secretary – Suzanne Garrison

(suzanne.kelly-garrison@wright.edu)

Treasurer – Diana Sanders

Finance – Steve Barbadora (sbarbadora@yahoo.com)

Past Pres. --Bob Reece (robertreece@woh.rr.com)

Marketing -- Julie Thomes (jthomes@woh.rr.com)

Communications -- Jo Smith (josmith7@aol.com)

Membership – John Rudisill (john.rudisill@wright.edu)

Chris Pinkelman (cpinkelman@tcn-bhs.org)

Brian Davis (bkdavis5@sbcglobal.net)

Harry Vearn (hvearnirongate@aol.com)

Junior Rep -- Kaitlyn Edwards



Newest Board Members: Kaitlyn Edwards & Harry Vearn

Thanks to all of you who made the Friday night parties (TGIFFF&TF) a clear success. It's something that I had thought about for the past couple of years and, thanks to a little push from Bob Reese, finally made it happen. I am now convinced more than ever that those kinds of member involved events are an important key to the club's future. We need more of those sorts of events as well as reviving club member tournaments for men and women alike.

Lastly, it has been said that two heads are better than one. I urge you to communicate with your Board of Trustees and let them know how you feel about the club and what you would like to see in the future. In the end it's your satisfaction with the club that will keep us going. Have a happy, healthy New Year!

- Jerry Sanders, Club Manager

CLUB MANAGER NOTES



The courts are put to bed for the winter and another season is over. And what a season!

We had record numbers of members attending events. Daily play, in both morning and evening, was up. The courts were in the best shape they've been in recent memory. There was a positive buzz around the club that hasn't been felt for a long time. Let's keep it going into next year.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we needed to shift some of our maintenance procedures in order to deal with the heat and the lack of rain. In some cases we were watering 300% more than normal and found that closing the club between 1-3 did the trick.

Our new lawn tractor was extremely helpful with grounds maintenance including vastly increased efficiency with leaf control. The new equipment has already paid for itself in labor cost savings and will continue to save us money each season.



Nancy Shelton, Suzanne Garrison, Chris Vradelis & Julie Thomes
 Keeping with a tradition started last year, these ladies braved the cold on November 1 to play one last time as the nets were being taken down around them.

ISSUES SURVEY

As the Board continues to study the issues from the survey, we would like to share the results received from about 50 members and give you an update.

1. There was strong, though not unanimous, support for the **Super Senior** tournament, and the Board hopes to continue it.
2. Opinion was mixed regarding the **Junior Program**. The Board would like to continue it, at least for the immediate future, if we can secure quality staffing for it without significant cost to the Club..
3. In keeping with the strong sentiment expressed by some respondents in the survey, and after further discussion among the Board, we will not have a salaried Pro. However, we are exploring the possibility of a pro who will be self-sustaining.
4. Many responses indicated that we should not continue the **Weston** tournament unless we can make money on it, and others wished to see it abandoned in any case. The Board is continuing to consider this issue, first exploring whether it is possible to secure sponsors that could make the tournament sufficiently profitable.

HOLLINGERWEEN PARTY ATTENDEES



Bill Clark, Mary and Tom Creager (Labor Day 2010)



Loweta Capehart, Ellie Klein, Carol Eaton (Labor Day)



Some Hollingerween players (Chris Pinkelman, Diana Sanders, Victoria Buckner, & Jerry Sanders).



A Wedding at Hollinger Tennis Club!
On October 9, 2010, behind Court 7, neighbors and new members Angela and Stephen Hoersting were wed.



*The Board and Staff wish you all **Happy Holidays!***

We voted to repeat last year's Christmas Discount offer, but please act soon:

Surprise someone special with a new Hollinger Tennis Club Membership for 2011 and save 20% (does not apply to renewal for current members). The reduced rates for new memberships are:

Family - \$396 (save \$99); Single - \$276 (save \$69); Junior - \$60 (save \$15).

NOTE: Also pass this word to friends & family who may be planning to join for 2011.

*Contact membership chairman John Rudisill at john.rudisill@wright.edu or call him at 937-426-1882. **Offer ends Dec 31, 2010.***