



Happy New Year!

Many of us take time from our daily lives to help with projects that benefit others in our community. This is certainly true for our USPTA/PNW teaching professionals, as the following stories will attest. Our PNW members are a very generous group of professionals who contribute to their communities' health, growth and well-being. The stories below are just a few examples of how these leaders of the sport of tennis in the PNW, USPTA professionals, enrich the environments in which they live.

Thanks to those USPTA/PNW Pros who were at the heart of these community efforts and to those who assisted and participated with them in making the events successful.

Mark Bergman

NW Washington

Tennis Director, Columbia Athletic Clubs - Silver Lake

We had a **Breast Cancer Awareness Tennis Mixer** on October 7th. We raised \$2,452 for Seattle Cancer Care Alliance and their MammoVan. Great time for all, six survivors took part.

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Participants at the Columbia Athletic Club - Silver Lake's Breast Cancer Awareness Tennis Mixer last fall to benefit Seattle Cancer Care Alliance.

President's Message

By **Bill Fletcher**
USPTA/PNW President

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Happy New Year! An exciting time ahead for the PNW



Happy New Year 2012 is here! I hope you and your families had a good holiday season. It is hard to believe that we are into a new year already. The USPTA has had a very memorable and exciting year to look back on, that is for sure. But as we move into 2012, we also move forward with a new National Board. As many of you already know, our own **Nancy Cox** will be serving as Vice President. I look forward to working with our National Board this year as we move past last year's issues.

The PNW had a great 2011 with so many things that shined out for us. One of our Board members, **Fitz Paccione**, was named the USPTA National Star Award Winner. This award recognizes teaching professionals who make an indelible mark on their communities through the sport of tennis. Fitz has made significant contributions to tennis in Portland through his work with Port-

land After School Tennis (PAST). Many of you may have seen several of the children from this program at this year's PNW Division Convention in June – one of the highest attended conventions ever. We were pleased to see so many local pros attending.

The Board is already preparing for the 2012 PNW Convention. If you log onto our web site at usptapnw.org, you will find a site bid sheet to fill out for those clubs wishing to host this prodigious event. Please have the bids submitted to us by our board meeting on January 21, 2012. We are also looking for your input about who you would like to see as presenters at the convention.

I am always moved by the big hearts the tennis professionals have in the PNW. We are always looking to hear from you about any events you host or programs you are involved in. I know we have tied into *Tennis - for the health of it* this past year and are reaching many people who have never played the sport before. This, along with "10 and Under Tennis," has helped bring new players to tennis and into our clubs.

Best wishes for 2012! ●



USPTA's Heckler announces plans to retire in December 2012

Tim Heckler has announced that he will retire from his position as chief executive officer of the USPTA in December 2012, after 30 years in the position. When Heckler was tapped as USPTA CEO in 1982, the organization had approximately 2,400 members and an annual budget of \$700,000. Today the association is the world's oldest and largest organization of its kind, serving more than 15,000 members in 66 countries, and operating on an annual budget of \$6.5 million. Also, the association's equity has grown from \$60,000 in 1982 to more than \$4.2 million today.

Heckler started his tennis-teaching career in 1970, the same year he joined USPTA. He was elected president of the USPTA Texas Division in 1974 and served as national president of the organization from 1980 to 1982. With Heckler's guidance, USPTA became one of the first tennis organizations to embrace technology, first through computerization of the business itself as early as 1982, and then later through use of the Internet and email-based communications and education. USPTA introduced its first website in 1995.

The USPTA honored Heckler in 2000 by naming him a grand inductee in the association's Hall of Fame. He also received the International Tennis Hall of Fame's Tennis Educational Merit Award in 2002 and was inducted into the Texas Tennis Hall of Fame in 2005. In 2008 he received the highest honor awarded by the USPTA, the George Bacso Lifetime Achievement Award. ●

Year in Review: 2011 Above and Beyond

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Marceil Whitney NW Washington

Reaching at risk youth in Kirkland and Redmond is the mission of the nonprofit **CTA Tennis Outreach Programs**. The programs sponsor twice-weekly sessions lasting eight weeks at the Redmond Community Center. Session 1 is on Tuesday, and Session 2 is on Thursday. There are a total of 25 kids in each class, K-6 grade, who play on a short court in the center's gym with foam balls. Marceil volunteers her time and up to 60 percent of the participants in each session receives a scholarship.

If kids can't afford to continue to play after they graduate, they receive clothes, shoes and racquets for their junior high play. Nearly 95 percent of the scholarship money and equipment comes from community and industry donations. The new



Outreach and Performance Tennis Center is planned to open in January 2012 and is expected to add a total of seven teaching professionals. Approximately four of those teaching professionals will be for the 10 & Under program. For more information contact Marceil Whitney.

Don Thomas NW Washington

Just to let you know that we on the Olympic Peninsula had a very successful summer tennis camp (2 weeks, 3 hours per day) during June and July 2011, thanks to the efforts of volunteers and the Olympic Peninsula Boys and Girls Clubs, in Sequim, Washington. We had a total of 115 kids from 5 to 14 years old.

The program was put together and managed by **Don Thomas** and assisted by **Bill Thomas** (from Arizona), both USPTA teaching pros, and **Stephen Rosales** from the B & G Club. We also had 30

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I AM TOMAS BERDYCH.

I AM MARIA SHARAPOVA.

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Year in Review: 2011 Above and Beyond

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volunteers to help set up the event and for coaching the kids on the five Sequim High School courts. We converted two of the courts (with screens in between) into eight "10 and Under" courts, in order to accommodate the 88 students. We had at least two coaches for each of the five courts (three each on the two converted courts). The last lesson was followed up with a BBQ for the kids, their parents, and the staff. It was truly a successful event due to the community efforts. AND, it was ALL done with volunteers – not one of us was paid.



Bruce, Jay, Jose, and Dan

Dan Willman

NW Washington

Mike Calkins and I will be running the first **PNW Regional Training Center** under our LLC – "Northwest High Performance Tennis" with the help of **Jim Markin** and **Bill Leong**. I also received the Olympic Committee USTA Developmental Coach of the Year at the U.S. Open.

Mike and I helped **Tops** (Tennis Outreach Programs) raise a considerable amount for the new facility opening in Totem Lake on Feb 1. Please contact **Travis Roach** (GM of the new public

facility) at 206-484-1988 for more information. This facility will host RTC camps, will allow Tops to impact hundreds more at risk kids in the area, and fill a huge gap for tennis in the Seattle/PNW area. The public facility will include six courts, six short courts, and a clubhouse!

All the best!

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An advertisement for HEAD FXP™ TOUR tennis string. The background is dark with a glowing blue silhouette of a tennis player in mid-swing. In the top right corner is the HEAD logo in white on an orange background. The text "THE FUSION OF POWER AND COMFORT." is written in large, glowing blue letters. A diagram shows a cross-section of the string with labels: "Liquid Outer Coating", "4 Monofilament polyester fiber core", and "8 Layer Multifilament Wrap". Below the diagram is a small image of a HEAD FXP TOUR string package. In the bottom right corner, there is the USPTA logo and the text "HEAD is the Official String of the USPTA" and "THE POWER OF YOU".

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THE POWER OF YOU

Year in Review: 2011 Above and Beyond

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Jordan Coons

NW Washington

USPTA Professional

Team Prince Teaching Professional

I would like to announce the grand opening of my Pro Shop in January 2012. I felt it is something that the Olympia area has needed for a long time. My club is Valley Athletic Club in Tumwater, WA.

John Hein

Eastern Washington

Head Women's Tennis Coach - Whitman College

This year at Whitman, between the men's and women's teams, we had several events to promote and grow "10 & Under Tennis". We held a campus kids' day during a women's match vs. Willamette last spring, with fun events during the match and a free kids' clinic with the players after the match. We ran a "Tennis in Schools" program where players from both teams taught "10 & Under Tennis" to the entire first grade at one school and the entire second grade at another school, we hosted a Quickstart Tennis Workshop with the USTA.

Because of these and other community programs, Women's coach **John Hein** was named the 2011 PNW USTA/ITA Sectional Quickstart Provider of the Year.

Lisa Hart, who coaches at WSU in Pullman, was named the 2011 USTA/ITA Sectional Campus & Community Outreach Award Winner for all the great work she does up there.

Shannon Fraser

Southern Oregon

Tennis Pro – STSC

Salem Tennis & Swim Club held a free kids clinic as a kickoff to our Salem Summer Classic Tournament, July 13, 2011. More than 60 kids attended this 2-plus hour clinic. We made use of the 10 and under Quick Start equipment (balls, racquets, nets) for our largest group of kids that numbered over 30!



Brian Leahy

Northern Oregon

Tennis Center Supervisor, Tualatin Hills Tennis Center

THPRD raised \$2,775 during our annual **Breast Cancer fundraising** event, held Friday, November 4th, 2011.

This year's event was not only for the tennis players that we have lost in the past, but more recently, in memory of our dear friend **Cheryl Babb** who we lost this past year. The proceeds went to Breast friends, a local non-profit organization that Cheryl had developed a relationship with.

Brian Loomis

Northern Oregon

The **Greater Portland Tennis Council** raised \$3,600 for the tennis community during their tennis auction.

District Reports

Andy Cochran

Southern Oregon

USPTA/PNW Board Member

Ashland Tennis and Fitness Club hired **Kory Rodgers** as its new Club Manager and Tennis Director. Kory has 23 years of experience as a teaching pro/director in the PNW and Texas divisions. Kory moved to Ashland with his wife Lori and his two young sons. He has been busy building the junior program as well as getting many club social events on the calendar. Over at Rogue Valley Swim and Tennis, **Frank Inn** had two of his students sign National Letters of Intent in November. **Wil Cochran** and **Kelsey Fry** have both accepted scholarship offers to play for **Jay Sterling** at Portland State University next year. These are the two latest to join the ranks of kids who have obtained college scholarships with Frank Inn's help.

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Hunter Lipscomb

Southern Oregon

USPTA/PNW Board Member

Bob Reed, a USPTA/PNW pro from Springfield, was instrumental in the recent opening of the Wilamalane Center, a public four court indoor heated multi-use facility in Springfield. Beside tennis, the center hosts roller derby, basketball, volleyball, and other activities. The facility is open to the public any time courts are available, and at \$3-5 per person, the rates are very affordable. The courts have regulation lines and nets and posts; the posts are removed when the facility is used for non-tennis activities. The surface is a plastic tile surface made by Sport Court. Although there is some time needed to adjust to the faster speed of the surface, players have enjoyed it and like the surface. The 1.5mm underlay provides a nice cushion that makes the courts easy on the body. Lessons and evening and weekend programs are offered, and Bob hopes to have some USTA teams playing out of Wilamalane in the future. The phone number for Wilamalane Center is (541) 736-4544, and you can get more info or a

schedule of events by contacting Bob Reed at reedrobert77@gmail.com. It's great to see new courts opening and tennis being made affordable for the public.

Mitch Adler, USPTA, took the job of Director of Tennis at Eugene Swim & Tennis Club in October--Adler is new to the Pacific Northwest, having spent much of his career in the Mid-Atlantic and Southern divisions. **Daryl Wisner**, USPTA, has joined his staff as a Head Professional, joining long-time ESTC Head Pro **David Chun**.

Hannah Hollister, USPTA, has joined the staff of Timberhill Tennis Club as an Assistant Pro.

Jeff Urie

Eastern Washington

USPTA/PNW Board Member

We conducted a **Tennis Across America Mega-Cardio Tennis** event on May 21, 2011 to support the American Red Cross Disaster Response effort following record flooding throughout

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HEAD

Robin Soderling

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District Reports

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the Midwestern US. This “free clinic” was open to all and brought in over \$400 in 75 minutes! 100% of proceeds went to the American Red Cross. The Spokane Club is the first club in Eastern Washington to install Quick Start blended lining on two of our indoor courts!

We hosted our first 10 and Under USTA-sanctioned tourney Dec 16-18 and look forward to inter-club play this summer using QST format!

Fitz Paccione

Northern Oregon

USPTA/PNW Board Member

USTA Pacific Northwest Team Wins 2011 Pacific Cup Tournament

Some of the best junior players from the USTA Northern and Southern California, Intermountain and our Pacific Northwest Section hit the courts at Tualatin Hills Tennis Center in Beaverton, Ore., for the **8th Annual Pacific Cup**. Held December 2-4, the team event featured singles, doubles, and mixed doubles and a format where every game counted toward the final score.

And when those final scores were tallied on Sunday afternoon, it was the Pacific Northwest team that claimed the Pacific Cup title with a come from behind win over

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Welcome to these new PNW Division members

[as of 12/9/2011]

Margot C. Charlton	Portland, OR
Brett B Hendrick	Oroville, WA
Hannah P. Hollister	Jefferson, OR
Julian G. Johnson	Portland, OR
Harold F. Maier, Ed.D.	Shedd, OR
Stephen Robertson	Tualatin, OR
Farhad Roshanaie	Seattle, WA
Sunny Samuel	Everett, WA
Michael P. Walter	Bothell, WA

The following members have been reinstated as of 12/9/2011

Robert A. Baker	Gig Harbor, WA
Susie Campbell-Gross	Portland, OR
Greg Dart	Seattle, WA
Roger B. Hart	Vancouver, WA
Michael A. Hinkle	Anchorage, AK
Matthew R. Houser	Vancouver, WA
Brian H. Jackson, PhD	Hillsboro, OR
Rick New	Seattle, WA
Eric Nokes	Bend, OR

Tennis Thanks the Troops

USPTA Pros

Join your fellow pros raising money for the families of our military men and women as **Tennis Thanks the Troops**.

Get Involved

The goal for participating clubs is to collect a \$5 donation from every tennis player to support ThanksUSA. Clubs will have flexibility on donation collection options (including running tournaments/contests, using lessons, silent auctions, or hosting the event a different weekend.)

When

Memorial Day Weekend 2012 (May 26-28) or another weekend

About the Program

Through Lessons for Life, which became USPTA's national charitable program in 1999, the USPTA encourages its members to use tennis as a vehicle to help others through fundraising activities in their communities. The collaboration with ThanksUSA is a new component of the program this year, and one that strives to mobilize USPTA members to raise funds to help families of military personnel, specifically by providing scholarships.

Let's show the troops how much we appreciate their sacrifice and provide them with the gift of education for their families. For more information contact Michele Stork at (703) 855-4108 or MicheleStork@ThanksUSA.org
Visit ThanksUSA at www.ThanksUSA.org.



ThanksUSA is a non-partisan, charitable effort to mobilize Americans of all ages to “thank” the men and women of the United States armed forces. We’re doing that by providing need-based college, technical and vocational school scholarships for their children and spouses.



District Reports

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Southern California by a slim seven game margin of 298-291. Congratulations to our USTA/PNW team and also a big thanks to all of our junior parents in the Portland area who generously provided housing for all out of town players for the weekend!

3rd Annual Sip, Serve & Celebrate Fundraiser

On Nov 11th the Portland tennis community came together to celebrate and support the **Portland After-School Tennis & Education Program**. The program teaches tennis and life-skills year-round at the St. Johns Racquet Center to at-risk youth in the North Portland community. The event featured USPTA professionals from throughout the Pacific-Northwest and was emceed by a local radio personality and Tennis Channel Commentator **Justin Gimelstob**. All proceeds from the charity event supported the programming efforts of PAST&E INC. Over \$130,000 was raised to support the program!

Kay Lorrain

NW Washington

USPTA/PNW Board Member

BETC is going gung-ho with 10 and Under Tennis starting in January. They have four sets of lesson groups ready to start and new lines are being painted for the program this month.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
<http://www.facebook.com/USPTAPacificNorthwest>



SAVE THE DATES: TESTING

- February 5th (Sunday) 2012 TBA (exact location TBA)
- June 1st (Friday) 2012 at the Division Convention (site TBA)



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