



Founded 1912

# Smoke Signals

May and June 2017

Indian Village Tennis Club • 1502 Parker • Detroit • 331-9494

[www.indianvillagetennis.com](http://www.indianvillagetennis.com)

## President's Message

As we open this, our 105th, season at IVTC, I would like to thank the Board for all of the planning that they have done to make the club "work." I don't think that members who just show up to play tennis realize what all is involved in running a club. It is not only the Board, but committee chairs, A members, and many B members who put in hours behind the scenes.

I do have a "help wanted" request for some skills that those of us who have been around for a longer while do not have (we recently poled the Board re Uber accounts and only 2 have them, the 2 youngest members). I would like to see a technology committee in place to explore how the club could use technology to operate more efficiently and effectively. If you are reading this and this sounds interesting, let me know!

Many exciting events are planned as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter, so post the calendar on your fridge and come on down and enjoy your club.

*- Sue Webb-Dickson*

## Membership

We are looking forward to welcoming new members to IVTC for tennis at all levels and fun social events. The application as well as club information is on our website, [indianvillagetennis.com](http://indianvillagetennis.com). Full payment must be received with submitted application. Call or email me with any questions:

313-268-1083, [r\\_gugino@hotmail.com](mailto:r_gugino@hotmail.com).

*-Rosemary Gugino, Membership Chair*

## Upcoming Events

### Spring Cleaning Part Two 10am Sat Apr 29

Help us put the club in tip-top shape for Opening Day! We hope to have the interior sparkling, and are planning to mulch the flowerbeds if you want to work outside. Lunch will be provided for the volunteers. (Please note that if the courts have been put in by then, Marty Petz and Drew Cook will be power washing the clubhouse siding, so the porch could be a bit wet.)

### Season Starts Mon May 1

#### Courts

A word from the Courts Committee: when the courts are resurfaced and relined, they are extremely soft and need extensive rolling before they are ready for play. If the nets are dropped, tennis play is NOT ALLOWED. Playing on soft courts will result in damage, prolonging the time until they are ready for play. Thank you for your consideration.

## Upcoming Events

### General Membership & A-Member Meeting 1:30-3pm Sunday May 7

The IVTC membership is invited to attend an all-club General Membership Meeting on Sunday, May 4, prior to the Opening Day Party. The meeting will be combined with the Spring A-Member Meeting, giving club members a chance to hear from club officers and committee chairs, and to have a voice in discussions of programs and activities.

### Opening Day Party 3pm Sunday May 7- Dressy

Help us celebrate the start of Indian Village Tennis Club's 104<sup>th</sup> season, say 'Hi' to some old friends, and maybe meet some new ones! The Board, Officers and Committee Chairs will be present to greet potential new members, and the A-Members are bringing delectable hors d'oeuvres. Dress code: coat and tie for the gents, please.

### Intermediate Membership Open House, 6:30pm Friday May 12

This event allows members the opportunity to invite potential new members to the Club, but in a less formal atmosphere than the Opening Day Party. Our goal is to introduce the Club to Detroit's growing set of young professionals moving into the area. This event is certainly not exclusive to just under-30 "Intermediate" members. All potential members are welcome. Members and their guests are welcome to play tennis, weather permitting. —*Marc Mathews*

### Wine Tasting 6:30 Sat May 13

Your hosts Jim Harvey, Bob Mobley and Chris Foster are preparing an exciting mix of both familiar and new IVTC wines for your tasting pleasure. The offered wines will be from the mid to upper levels of our price range, as with last year's tasting, and they will include four French selections from club member Kevin Ventura's *Soif de* wine imports. Please bring a small appetizer to share with your fellow wine aficionados, and be prepared to share your opinions of the wines as well.



Lee Trumbauer and Dave Balenger at Spring Cleanup Part 1

Steve Clarren and Tom Yates







Joanne Petz and Eric Kowalewski

Richard Canny



## Upcoming Events

### 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Night Dinner

**6:30pm May 17 - Dressy**

The 2017 WND season will be offering fabulous food, and great entertainment provided mostly by our own talented members! Make your reservations early for WND, because chef Sherry Ward will be adding some new and tasty creations to her fabulous buffet dinner.

Our tennis pro, Ken Rychwalski, will once again open the season on May 17 with band mate Spence Beaman. The guitar and piano duo will entertain us with some mellow blues and jazz. On June 14, WND entertainers will be *The Mic-Shauns*, who, by popular demand, will be make their second IVTC appearance. Their eclectic performances of vocals and instrumentals are always a must-see!

Please reserve your meal soon for our first WND of the season – to attend you must place your dinner order by Friday May 12. For reservations contact Sue Webb-Dickson with your choice of juicy prime rib, tender chicken breast, fresh salmon filet, or vegetarian main course: text or voice 313.320.3014; email [sue-webb2@aol.com](mailto:sue-webb2@aol.com). Coat and tie for the gents, please. –Pat O'Dowd

### Memorial Day Bourbons & Blends 1pm Mon May 29

Tennis play begins at 1pm; mint Juleps and a low key meal follow at 4pm. Free to members, guest fee is \$10. Please be sure to sign up if you will be attending. Contact Diane Foster (313 268-4967) if you'd like to help in the kitchen or at the grill.

### Member-Guest Tournament June 3-4

Don't miss out on the fun of our most popular tournament of the season! Member-Guest is fast approaching, so start looking for a partner so you can enjoy a couple of fun filled days on the clay! This is a great opportunity to show perspective members our club. The tournament will have an A & B bracket for both men and women. E-mail blasts with tournament and sign



## Upcoming Events

up details will be sent mid- May, so keep on the lookout. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of the tournament directors, Ken Miller or Yolanda Lewczuk.

### **THIS Member-Guest Party 6-ish Sat June 3**

Enjoy a great dinner after the first day of the tournament with your guest!

### **1<sup>st</sup> Monday Lesson and Lite Bite 6:30 Mon June 5**

Volunteers are needed for Lite Bites after Monday Lessons. A sign-up sheet will be available on the bulletin board, or call or email Nancy Maher, 313.320.7196, [ngm@krwlaw.com](mailto:ngm@krwlaw.com). Thanks to all who participated last season. We had some fun tennis and great meals last year and are looking forward to the new season.

*-Nancy Maher*

### **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Social 4pm June 11**

Sunday night has been traditionally game night and a pot luck dinner. Usually we end up playing Euchre but hopefully this year we could do Scrabble night, bridge, Maj Jong, Canasta, or other. Mark it on your calendar if you have nothing to do on Sunday night or you just really like to play games. *-Cheryl Huff*

### **Wednesday Night Dinner 6:30pm Wed June 14 – Dressy**

Please place your dinner order by Friday June 9. Our entertainers will be *The MicShauns*, who, by popular demand, will be making their second IVTC appearance. For reservations contact Sue Webb-Dickson with your choice of juicy prime rib, tender chicken breast, fresh salmon filet, or vegetarian main course: text or voice 313.320.3014; email [suewebb2@aol.com](mailto:suewebb2@aol.com). Coat and tie for the gents, please.

### **Presidents' Party 7pm Saturday June 24 – Black Tie Preferred**

Keep an eye on your mailboxes for your invitation to this year's Presidents' Party. We have been working hard this offseason putting together a memorable Presidents' Party. We will not



Ted Shumaker

Eric Kowalewski





Kathy Burgess and Jackie Canny



Elke Burger, Yolanda Lewczuk and Richard

Mary Cantwell and Lee Trumbauer



## Upcoming Events

be using response cards this year, RSVPs will be accepted by Sue Webb-Dickson by email at: [suewebb2@aol.com](mailto:suewebb2@aol.com) or phone (313) 881-7626.

-Marc Mathews

### Independence Day Bourbon & Blends 1pm Tues July 4

Tennis play begins at 1pm; mint Juleps and a low key meal follow at 4pm. Free to members, guest fee is \$10. Please be sure to sign up if you will be attending.

### Club Tournament Sat-Sun July 15-16; Steak Roast 6pm Sat July 15

Save the dates! Once again we will have a ladies and men's draw with format (round robin vs draw) dependent on the number of participants. So find a partner and join the fun. Winners have bragging rights for the year! Sign-up sheets to be posted in July. Good luck and see you on courts. Tournament Directors: Geoff Wagner and Malinda Shaw.

## Tennis Activities

### Bourbon & Blends Parties

This get together blending tennis, mint, and bourbon starts at 1pm on Monday, May 29. Tennis play begins at 1pm; mint juleps and low key barbecue to follow at 4pm. Parties occur on Memorial Day (May 29<sup>th</sup>), Independence Day (July 4<sup>th</sup>) and Labor Day (Sept 4<sup>th</sup>). This event is free to members. There is a \$10 fee for guests. Look for the sign-up sheet on the board and get your name on it if you plan to attend.

### Monday Night Lessons & Lite Bite

Monday night lessons start June 5. Come down and hone your strokes with club tennis pro Ken Rychwalski, assisted by Gary Hoslet and David Lee, from 6:30 to 8. Afterwards, stay for a bite to eat, hosted by a volunteer club member (coordinated by Nancy Maher).

### Sunday Social Tennis, Lite Bite & Games

Beginning Sunday June 11 at 4pm, please join



## Tennis Activities

us for tennis, followed by a bite to eat, and a variety of card and board games.

### Member-Guest Tournament

Tournament dates are June 3-4. Pencil in your calendar and find a partner for some fun tennis and showing off our wonderful club. Sign-up sheet will be going up mid-May.

### Weekly Tennis Activities (June- August)

Sunday Social Tennis, Lite Bites & Games: 4pm (excluding tournament days)

Morning Doubles: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9am to noon

Monday Lessons & Lite Bites: 6:30 to 8:00pm

Pick-up Doubles: Tues & Thurs 4pm to dusk, Sat & Sun 3pm to dusk

Pre-arranged Foursomes: Tues & Thurs 9 to noon (when no interclub), Wed 4 pm to dusk, Sat 9am to 1

Tennis at times other than above – Players' choice as to pick-up doubles or pre-arranged foursomes.



Barry Dickson and Marty Peters

Meria Larson and Ann Cook

## Recent Events

### Spring Cleaning Part One

Thanks to everyone who came down on April 8 to help with Spring Cleaning part one: Sue Webb-Dickson and Barry Dickson, Rosemary Gugino, Marc Mathews, Diane and Chris Foster, Ruth and Jim Harvey, Yolanda Lewczuk, Judy Sarvis, Bob Lucas, Ken Miller, Steve Clarren, Eric Kovalewski, Peggy O'Neill, Norma Eschenberg, Elke and Marsden Burger, Jackie and Richard Canny, Kathy Burgess, Gary Hoslet, Mary Beth Vander Schaaf, Leon Trumbauer, Dave Balinger, Joanne Petz, Tom Yates, Anne Cook, Mary Cantwell, John Van Camp, Marty Peters, Meria Larson, Will Gross, Ted Shumaker and Caitlin Murphy. We had beautiful weather, got a ton of stuff done, and enjoyed pizza from Happy's and a delicious salad prepared by Meria Larson. Again, many thanks to all!

*-Diane and Chris Foster*



## News and Notes

### IVTC 2017 Leadership

#### Club Officers

Sue Webb-Dickson, President; Marc Mathews, Vice President; Tom Roberts, Treasurer; Mary Beth Vander Schaaf, Secretary

#### Board Members

Marsden Burger, Diane Foster, Rosemary Gugino, James Harvey, Yolanda Lewczuk, Jacqueline McCann, Marc Mathews, Peggy O'Neill, Tom Roberts

#### Committee Chairs

If you would like to serve on a committee, please contact the committee chair. We are always looking for members to assist with tournaments, parties, weekly events, weeding the garden, etc.

Membership	Rosemary Gugino
Tennis	Yolanda Lewczuk & Ken Miller
Social	Diane Foster & Peggy O'Neill
Catered Events	Pat O'Dowd & Judy Sarvis
Bar	James Harvey
Clubhouse	Norma Eschenburg
Courts	Marc Mathews
Infrastructure	Barry Dickson
Garden	Joanne Petz & C Foster
Communications	Sue Webb-Dickson
Technology	*OPEN*
Finance	Tom Roberts
LRP/1912 Fund	Bob Lucas
Rules	Diane Foster
Legal	Jim Harvey, Gary Hoslet
Monday Lite Bite	Nancy Maher
Sunday Social	Cheryl Huff

### New A-Members

Congratulations to new A-Members Ann Cook, Geoff Wagner, and Malinda Wagner, elected at the February board meeting.

### Parking Lot Gate Openers Code Change

The codes for the remote gate openers for the Parkstone lot were changed in January by Parkstone management. Please refer to the IVTC email of January 10, 2017 to set the revised pin code inside your remote. A copy of the email is posted on the IVTC bulletin board as well.

### Treasurer's Corner

Welcome back to our 257 members from last year - a year that marked the introduction of our electronic delivery of monthly statements. In order to get the process started in a timely manner, the statements you received were from my personal email account. This year, starting with the May billing, your statements will be from [ivtc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:ivtc.treasurer@gmail.com). Please ensure that you have the new email address in your contact list to avoid your bill going into your spam or junk-mail folder. Monthly billings sent via regular mail will continue as before.

Changes to the club chits include addition of a Bourbons & Blends Guest item, delineation of the Sunday and Monday Lite Bite items, and several cosmetic changes. There were no price increases for items on the chits.

The Board of Directors has instructed that an account which is more than 30 days in arrears shall be assessed a \$10 per month charge until the account balance is current. Bills will be sent during the first week of each month, and payment is expected to be received by the end of the same month. If payment is not received in that period of time, the member's account will be in arrears by more than 30 days.

We will be evaluating PayPal to receive member payments for the 2017 season. Members will be notified when payment via PayPal is available. After the evaluation period, IVTC will determine whether we will continue, discontinue or modify the program for the future. During the evaluation period, no charges to IVTC for payments received will be passed on to the members who made the payments.



## News and Notes

Another payment option is for members to use their bank's online check mailing service. This service is free, and once it is set up, payments can be made utilizing a smart phone or a computer.

IVTC is a not-for-profit organization, with a tax designation of 501(c)(7) - Social and Recreation Clubs. IVTC is exempt from paying federal income taxes, but we are not exempt from state sales tax for most of the goods we purchase. The exception is for products that we resell, unaltered, such as tennis balls and non-alcoholic beverages. For these products, the sales tax is paid by the end consumer. Charitable contributions made to a 501(c)(7) organization are not tax deductible.

Please remember the IVTC 1912 Fund in your gift-giving plans for this year. The fund will be used for enhancements to the club's building and grounds. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Club. -*Tom Roberts*

### Volunteers Sought - Events

This year the Social Committee is throwing things wide open so that everyone can be a part of the fun. We are currently looking for hosts or help with THIS (Thank Heavens It's Saturday) Parties. No experience is required!

Available Dates are:

Member Guest	June 3
Steak Roast	July 15
Closing	October 28

Participating in the planning and hosting of these parties is very fun and a great way to get to know other members. If you would like to host or help, contact Diane Foster (313 268-4967 [dfoster@4Lpi](mailto:dfoster@4Lpi)), or Peggy O'Neill (313 283-8539 [poneill@outlook.com](mailto:poneill@outlook.com)).

### Volunteers Sought - Garden

If you would like to help in the garden, please contact Joanne Petz (313 300-8568 [jdpetz@cengage.com](mailto:jdpetz@cengage.com)). We are planning some fun weeding parties prior to big events, so contact Joanne if you'd like to pitch in!



Judy Sarvis

Marybeth Vander Schaaf and Ruth Harvey







Bob Lucas

Yolanda Lewczuk and Peggy O'Neill



## News and Notes

### Member Dues

This is just a reminder that your annual dues should be paid by May 1, the start of the season. Please note that new this year, per the Board of Directors, any account that is more than 30 days in arrears shall be assessed a \$10 per month charge until the account balance is current. Finally, also note that if your dues are not in by June 15, your name will not be included in the 2017 directory.

### No Guest Fee in May

The \$5 tennis guest fee is excused for the month of May, so that you may bring your Member-Guest Tournament partner down to practice at the club.

### Save Some Balls for Monday Lessons

Please save your tennis balls from the end of your indoor season, and put them in the ball hoppers for Monday Lessons – we always need balls for lessons at the beginning of June. Thanks!

### Security at IVTC

Please observe the following measures to keep us all safe and secure.

- Be aware of your surroundings when entering or exiting the club.
- Always enter and exit the club in groups, particularly at night. An Individual leaving the club should be accompanied to the parking lot by an additional club member.

If you are the last to leave the club, day or night, make sure all the clubhouse doors are closed and locked, and activate the security system as you leave.

## In Memoriam



**Dick Williamson**

Dick Williamson, a member of IVTC since 2008, passed away suddenly March 6, 2017. Known for his hard-hitting Wednesday night tennis, along with his smile, his wild THiS party costumes and his cigars, as well as an IVTC tournament director, he will be missed by many. Our condolences go out to his wife, Linda, who was an IVTC member prior to moving to Ann Arbor in 2014. *—Rosemary Gugino*



**Norman G. Sprock: The End of an Era, and the Continuation of the Cycle**

On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at eighty six years of age, Norman G. Sprock passed away; one member of a strong and growing collective known as the Indian Village Tennis Club. We have many new members that only knew Norm as the older gentleman that sat at the end of the bar and was quick to buy a drink for those that engaged him in conversation. Conversation

and interest in tennis is how Norm passed the last years of his life. Three times a week he would drive the three miles from his home in 1300 Lafayette to the parking lot at Indian Village, get himself together, and proceed to hit against the wall for forty five minutes, or whatever he could muster on the given day. Then, he would sit on the bench, the porch, or at the bar, and remember the times and the people that had made up his life at Indian Village. If you engaged him at those times he would often remark that there was no other place in the world like IVTC - no place where life was simpler or more pure. People volunteering to create the opportunity to play a game they love and enjoying each other in the process.

Norm was not speaking from a lack of experience. As a Vice President of American Natural Resources, he had seen the ins and outs of the corporate world. In his younger years he had traveled through Europe and went on safari in Africa. For Norm nothing mattered more than the game of tennis. He retired early so that he could spend his time doing what he loved, full time.

Was Norm a good tennis player? Let's put it this way. For his time, he was the best there was at Indian Village – surely one of the best in the region. He had played number one for Iowa State. In his top form, he was competing in the era of the wooden racket – simply a different game than what we see today. But, his serve and forehand put him in a class by himself. However, it was a tremor in his arm that took him away from the game. It robbed him of the ability to toss the ball, and therefore his serve. Without the ability to hit his serve, his desire to play the game stopped, but not his desire to be near it.

Norm entered the club in the 1950's, after serving in Korea. There were many good players in those days, but Norm became a constant. For the next forty years, Norm dominated tennis at Indian Village. In the early 70's Norm was joined at IVTC by Clark Scholes, an athletic power house of epic proportion. Clark set an Olympic record while winning the Gold Medal at the Helsinki games, won two Gold Medals in the Pan Am Games, many national championships, and eventually introduction into the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame. Norm and Clark struck up a friendship that would last until death. Norm was a retiring individual while Clark was outgoing. Together on the courts, they made a formidable tennis team – Clark crowding the net with lighting



fast hands and Norm crushing forehands from the base line. This rarely worked for them in tournaments, but for IVTC fun, and a challenge for anyone that wanted to experience exciting tennis to its fullest, they created an aura that brought players from throughout the region to participate.



Norm, Clark and a seemingly unending cadre of players, flowed like velvet beer from the courts to the bar as darkness fell. Discussions would pound on endlessly into the night, every night; with the discussions running in any direction someone felt the urge to take them. Some women, mostly men - opinions right or wrong - no one seemed to care as much as they did for the fun of the discussion.

Time has a way of altering the nature of things. Cycles are unavoidable. Detroit on a downturn in the 60's and beyond - playing itself out at IVTC for decades after the more immediate impacts on the region had steadied. Night after night, the crowd at the bar, with Norm and Clark holding court, unperceivably would become less. Families would move, players would develop physical issues; life styles which seemed so sure in the 70's and 80's would be challenged. Twenty people or more at the bar had been a frequent occurrence. Then one day these occurrences were less. Death would take key members of this group and family needs would limit participation.

As one has a longer relationship with IVTC and reads a bit of its history, one is surprised to find that the changes that one feels are only effecting them

in the "here and now", are actually playing out in a nearly identical fashion as they have time and again before. New members come into the club, find their place, step up to improve things in their perceptions, and older members recede. These cycles and their characteristics are usually driven by a few individuals. To be sure, Norm, with his good looks and dominant tennis talent, played a major role in his nearly sixty years era with IVTC.

As IVTC has begun to build itself up in membership, as Detroit is finally rebounding, a cycle begins again at IVTC. Norm's passing is the end of an era, because he was a major part in making an era.

For those members that remember Norm only as the tall older gentleman sitting at the end of the bar, take heart in knowing that he looked at the increasing membership with the recognition that the seeds of a new era was playing out before his very eyes. While in his mind he may have been reverting to the reveries of the times and friends gone by, if you engaged him in thoughtful conversation, he would have told you, "there was no other place in the world like IVTC - no place where life was simpler or more pure. People volunteering to create the opportunity to play a game they love and enjoying each other in the process." —Marsden Burger



**Robert C Lucas, SRES**  
**Higbie Maxon Agney**

83 Kercheval Ave.  
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI

Office: 313-886-3400

Cell: 313-303-5435

Email:  
bobl@higbiemaxon.com



### Newsletter Contributors

Photography: Chris Foster and many others

Layout: Diane Foster

Editor: Chris Foster

Distribution: Marty Peters

We need your contributions for articles and photography - please contact Chris Foster at 313 516-6979.

Indian Village Tennis Club  
1502 Parker  
Detroit, MI 48204



## Important Dates

**General Membership & A-Member Meeting**  
1:30-3pm Sunday May 7

**Opening Day Party**  
3-6pm Sunday May 7 – Dressy

**Intermediate Open House**  
6:30pm Friday May 12

**Wine Tasting**  
6:30 Sat May 13

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday Night Dinner**  
6:30pm Wed May 17 – Dressy

**Memorial Day Bourbons & Blends**  
1pm Mon May 29

## Important Dates

**Member-Guest Tournament**  
June 3-4

**THIS Party**  
6ish Sat June 3

**1<sup>st</sup> Monday Lesson and Lite Bite**  
6:30 June 5

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Social**  
4pm June 11

**Wednesday Night Dinner**  
6:30pm Wed June 14

**President's Party**  
7:00pm Sat June 24

**Independence Day B&B**  
1pm Tues July 4