



**GCTA Quarterly Meeting
January 17, 2013**

Convened at 7:10 p.m. by Phil Diaz

Board Attending: Phil Diaz	Fred Duy	Doug Ewart	Scott Gerber
Beth Gibson	Art Haus	Rob Hildreth	Terri Jones
Erin Ortman	Shelby Rhyne	Jim Scowden	Dan Witteman

Guests Attending: Terry Gee	Tyler Stephen	Ashley Leveto	Naveen Das
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September Meeting Minutes

Rob Hildreth moved and Shelby Rhyne seconded to approve the September meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Shirley Neibauer / Terri Jones reporting

	<u>September 15, 2012</u>	<u>January 14, 2013</u>
Money Market	- \$ 68,531.52	\$ 68,568.79
Checking	- \$ 34,939.68	\$ 6,728.35
Total	- \$103,471.20*	\$ 75,297.14*

At the time of the September 15, 2012, meeting several major expenses were not yet paid, such as – the Men's and Women's league awards, the Columbus Recreation and Parks grant, the USTA Midwest Section Junior Team Tennis overpayment, the Awards Ceremony, and several grants. These payments are reflected in the January figures.

2013 Quarterly Meetings:
Thursdays
April 18th
July 18th
September 19th

Grant Committee – Jane McMeekin/Terri Jones reporting

- Jane reported that we have awarded two new grants since the last meeting. One entitled Kids Club Tennis offered through the Clintonville/Beechwood Community Center and the other Ace with Love (Wolfe Park Tennis).

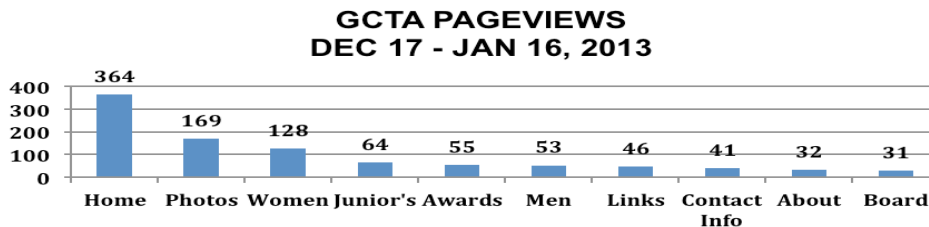
Website – Scott Gerber

Scott gave an overview of the new website and outlined the website objectives as the following:

- Promote a "tennis is a life-long sport" approach by engaging all age groups.
- Make the site more graphically appealing by using more photos. Use an approach that would enable us to keep the web site "fresh".
- Make it easier to communicate upcoming events.
- Provide more recognition to award winners using pictures and previous awards programs.
- Make board members more recognizable to players.
- Provide contact information for those who want to play in leagues.



Scott asked that any ideas for items to include on the website be submitted to Terri or Jane. Also any pictures need to be taken with a real camera (rather than a cell phone or iPad) and need to be wider than it is high.



Awards Ceremony – Shelby Rhyne

- Shelby announced that the 2013 ceremony will be at the Everal Barn on September 26, 2013.
- The 2012 was held Thursday, September 27 at the Everal Barn in Westerville. We recognized 9 Annual Awards Winner and GCTA Mens and Women league winners. Phil Diaz was our host and special thanks Terri Jones, Scott Gerber, and our Awards Ceremony Members – Erin Ortman, Jane McMeekin, and Mark Anderson for their assistance in planning, setting up and recording the event. Jim Amick, of USTA MidWest hosted a group of young players on a mini court set up on the front drive as well gave an update on the 10 and Under USTA program.
- Attendance was estimated at 125 people. All receipts have been submitted.
- Two of our Annual Awards recipients received OVTA awards at the annual meeting in November. Gordon McNamee was presented with the Kay Schubert Award for being chosen as the outstanding USTA captain in the Ohio Valley area. Fran McCabe was awarded the Lee Gillespie Award. The Lee Gillespie Award winner is a non-tournament player who has done the most for tennis in the Ohio Valley area.
- Chris Davis, GCTA 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient was not able to accept her award at the September

Awards Ceremony due to conflicts were her schedule as head coach for Smith College. Shelby Rhyne and Joanie Weissman, who nominated Chris for the award, hosted a small drop-in for Chris on January 13 while she and her mother were in Columbus for the holidays. Over 35 Chris Fans including several GCTA board members attended this event.

- Photos from all three Awards events are posted on the GCTA website.

Women's League – Erin Ortman

- Winter parties are advertised on both the gcta.net site and tenniscotes.com site. There are openings at all 3 parties. Fri 1/26 at Wickertree 6-10, Sat 1/26 at the Racquet club 6-10 and Sat 2/16 at Racquet Club 6-10pm. The winter party give away is a band-aid holder with the gcta logo. There will be lots left over for other programs to use.
- Due to the size of the GCTA Career leagues, it is necessary to add Tuesday evenings to the schedule.

Mens League – Terry Finneran/ Rob Hidreth reporting

- The men's leagues are dormant at this point. If anyone is interested in helping with the men's leagues please step up. Just the Lakes and Scioto still owe some membership dues, combined, less than \$100.

USTA Leagues – Shelby Rhyne

- The theme for USTA Summer leagues is USTA Summer Nights – Let's MIX IT UP! We are looking to get Columbus area USTA players to try NEW things, Since we are not offering USTA 18&over or 40&ver USTA leagues this summer. We ARE offering "something for everyone - doubles leagues for combo, mixed, 55 & over and 65 & over and a singles FLEX league. The doubles leagues will play on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights.
- We expect 250 – 300 USTA registrations for these league offerings. Our USTA league registration for summer 2012 was 750+.
- Terri Jones and Shelby will be meeting soon with OVTA Adult League Coordinator, Joyce Engle to plan more details of our summer USTA league offerings. Shelby will also be meeting with Jeannine Smith and Denica Bruce who will be helping to plan and publicize the USTA Singles FLEX league

Columbus Recreation & Parks – Denica Bruce / Terry Gee reporting

- Schiller, Woodward Park and Whetstone will hold adult leagues this summer with 3 sessions; Spring, summer and Fall. Terry is unsure of the Junior schedule but presumes it will be similar to last year's.

Junior Team Tennis – Brittany Rings / Terri Jones reporting

- Terri, Brittany, Jim Amick and Peggy Knasel will be meeting Wed 1/23 for a JTT meeting and come up with an action plan on how to encourage more participation. Midwest is offering a JTT incentive this year. The coach will receive \$200 for new 3 girls and 3 boys who sign up as a team. This plan will be finalized by the Midwest this week.

Umpires – Art Haus (Terri Jones reporting)

- Umpire re-certification will be held at the Racquet Club on Sat. March 9th. If interested, please contact Art directly. There is a training for NEW umpires in Cincinnati March 2&3. There is no charge to be trained as an umpire.

10 & Under Initiative – Tyler Stephen, Ashley Leveto, Erin Ortman,

- **Ashley:** Has a commitment from Dublin Schools to have a YTT program this summer at Jerome H.S. There will not commit to adding fliers in kids backpacks but will allow her to display fliers in a common flier area. Wickertree hosted a Play day on December 1st, it was the last one of the year.
- **Tyler:** Has a commitment from Worthington Schools to have a YTT program this summer. Although they have not committed to the in-schools program, Tyler continues to encourage the district to add tennis to their PE curriculum.
- **Erin:** Has a commitment from Hilliard schools to continue their YTT program. Is still looking for a final commitment from Upper Arlington and Grandview.
- **Terri:** Westerville has committed to a YTT program this summer. The program will be held at Otterbein University. Pickerington has installed ten 36' courts in their parking lot.

Executive Director's Report – Terri Jones

- October 19th was our in-service training for Columbus Public Schools. We were able to train every PE teacher and reach 84 elementary schools extending our reach to over 27,000 children. With our continued Columbus Recreation and Parks blended line project, any child in the Columbus district will be able to walk to any Columbus public facility with tennis courts and play on modified courts. Due to Columbus PE teacher requests and support we will hold a second training on Wednesday, Jan 30th at Woodcrest Elementary from 5-7 PM.
- National statistics show that Junior racquet sales are up 10% and junior ball sales are up 41%. These figures support that the 10 and Initiative is working!
- The Midwest Section has invested \$8500 in play day and tournament incentives. If you register a play day and have 20 participants, you will receive \$50. If you hold a sanctioned orange or red ball tournament with 8 participants, you will receive \$100, capped at 5 tournaments.
- Midwest 10 and Under tournaments are up 33% for red ball and 240% for orange ball tournaments.
- Midwest section has invested \$63k in 36 and 60 foot courts line grants. They have invested \$16k on junior memberships. The USTA Facility Assistance Program has helped build 3000 new courts in 45 states.
- Ohio Valley Tennis Association's New President is Dana Eddy. He will be focusing on Jr. Tournaments, laying the ground work to have a new Ex. Director in place when Dave Engle retires, and to increase traffic the OVTA website. The spring meeting will be on March 10th in Chillicothe and the Annual Meeting will be on November 3rd in Charleston W. Va. Both Erin Ortman and Paul Kobelt join the OVTA board of trustees.

- My Gift to Kids Tennis raised \$790 for our local Buddy Up Chapter.
- Erin Ortman and I attended a Community Development Workshop in Indianapolis last weekend. We took a “How Healthy is your CTA” test and realized how strong our CTA is and will remain in the future.
- Terri renewed our liability insurance for running GCTA sponsored events at different facilities.
- Terri is also looking into the possibility of investing in Board of Director’s insurance. This might be the solution to what happened with the lawsuit that was brought against us last spring. It also protects our board members from personal liability.

New Business

- **Jr. Tournaments in Columbus/Art Haus:** Art brought up the fact that there are NO Midwest tournaments held in Columbus. Since we have the best juniors in the state we should encourage local clubs to show interest in hosting some of these tournaments. Phil Diaz spoke with Elysium about the inequity of this situation and said that we will have to encourage the Midwest to change their policies. The Midwest policy will allow whoever hosts each tournament to continue to host until they decide they no longer want the tournament. Terri added that this is the way the GCTA qualifier is also held and we have had some disgruntled clubs in the past. Art’s concern is that the Midwest will not grant a club to host a tournament unless they have blended lines. Michael Hughes, Midwest’s tournament official, states the following:

While selection has nothing to do with 10 and Under Tennis initially, Midwest Elevated Tournament Directors do have a requirement of hosting at least 2 registered USTA Play Days and 2 sanctioned Orange Ball tournaments in the calendar year in which they have an elevated tournament. I can tell you that of the 53 tournament directors that had this requirement in 2012, 50 of them completed the requirement without a hiccup. The other three did not have their elevated tournaments automatically returned for 2013, but were welcome to rebid on those tournaments provided they included how they planned to comply with the 10 and Under requirements for 2013.

To answer your overarching question, we do not get a lot of bids from Columbus clubs for whatever reason. In the last year, to my knowledge, only Wicker Tree and Elysium have applied from the Columbus area.

- **GCTA Brochure/Jim Scowden:** Please review the distributed brochure for any additions and corrections. This brochure will be used to communicate what the GCTA’s mission is in the Columbus area. We plan to distribute these brochures to any club or facility that will allow us to promote our purpose and mission.
- **The Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM**

