

**GREATER COLUMBUS TENNIS ASSOCIATION**



# **2013**

## **Awards Ceremony**



**Thursday**  
**September 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Everal Barn**  
**Westerville, OH**

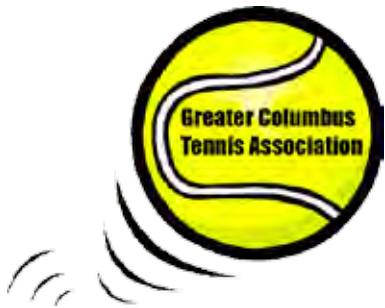
## GCTA 2014 Officers

President	Phil Diaz
Immediate Past Pres.	Erin Ortman
Vice President	Jim Scowden
Treasurer	Shirley Neibauer
Secretary	Jane McMeekin

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**Executive Director** Terri Jones

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## GCTA Board of Trustees

### Term Ending 2014

Jim D'Innocenzo  
Terry Finneran  
Art Haus  
Jane McMeekin  
Shirley Neibauer  
Brittany Rings  
Sharon Rusk  
Jim Scowden  
Les Varnado

### Term Ending 2015

Mark Anderson  
Pat Anderson  
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### Term Ending 2016

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John Campbell  
Fred Duy  
Jim Hendrix  
Rob Hildreth  
Mike O'Callaghan  
Erin Ortman  
Shelby Rhyne  
Geri Schlegel  
Mike Toomey  
Emi Tsuda

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## GCTA 2014 Board Positions

Men's Chair  
Women's Chair  
Columbus Recreation & Parks Tennis  
USTA Jr. Team Tennis Coordinator  
USTA Adult Summer League Coordinator  
USTA 10 & Under Initiative

Terry Finneran  
Erin Ortman  
Denica Bruce  
Brittany Rings  
Shelby Rhyne  
Jacqueline Boggs  
Terri Jones  
Erin Ortman

# **Greater Columbus Tennis Association**

**2013  
Awards Ceremony  
7:00 P.M.**

***Opening Remarks - Phil Diaz, GCTA President***

***Presentation of GCTA Annual Awards***

Special Recognition - **Sam Arisan**  
Promotion of Tennis - **Jacqueline Boggs**  
Promotion of Tennis - **Mitsi Niceswanger**  
Columbus Recreation & Parks - **Quentin Pruneau**  
Media - **Bill Rabinowitz**  
Family of the Year - **The Sanfords**  
Female Players of the Year - **Francesca DiLorenzo &  
Cristina DiLorenzo and May Summers**  
Male Player of the Year - **Canyon Teague**

***Recognition of Men's League Winners***

***Recognition of Women's League Winners***

***Closing Remarks***

**September 26<sup>th</sup>  
Everal Barn & Homestead Park  
Westerville, OH**



# GCTA Award Special Recognition

## Sam Arisan



*Tennis players at both Whetstone Park and Olympic Indoor need no introduction to Sam Arisan. For many years Sam has been organizing tennis at these locations providing the opportunity for area players to share their love of the game.*

*Sam was also one of the first people to join The Champions after the club was transferred over to members from Columbus Recreation & Parks. He is not just a playing member, he works **for** the club by sweeping the courts both before the day's play starts and after the last player has left.*

*Sam is active in managing the 3.5 team at Champions making sure that all players feel a part of the team's effort to improve. In the words of a fellow club member, "Sam cares for all tennis players & all tennis players care for Sam."*

*Congratulations to Sam Arisan, the 2013 GCTA Award for Special Recognition recipient.*



## GCTA Award Promotion of Tennis

### Jacqueline Boggs



*A few years ago the USTA envisioned a master program called 10 & Under Tennis and decided to make it a priority all over the country. There can be no better of example of “how to do it right” than Jacqueline Boggs and her Pick10Tennis program. Starting two years ago, Jacqueline began to play the role of tennis head cheerleader in her community.*

*Through Jacqueline’s efforts, hundreds of Pickerington elementary students and after-school program participants are learning how much fun tennis can be! Since most schools did not have tennis courts available, Jacqueline has lined the 10 And Under Tennis court dimensions on her school parking lot so that teachers can use them as tennis courts.*

*Tennis didn’t stop in Pickerington when school let out. Pick10Tennis organized three Youth Team Tennis teams, summer camp clinics and will be having an Adaptive Youth Tennis Camp and Youth Team Tennis Camps this fall.*

*In Jacqueline’s words, “Tennis gives me amazing opportunities to give back to my community, both through the schools and through other venues.” Jacqueline’s efforts in Pickerington will continue to promote tennis for years to come.*

*Congratulations to Jacqueline Boggs, 2013 GCTA Promotion of Tennis Award recipient.*



# GCTA Award Promotion of Tennis

## Mitsi Niceswanger



*For many communities in Central Ohio, tennis is available and opportunities to play are plentiful. That could not be said for the community of Canal Winchester, southeast of Columbus. Two years ago, there were no tennis courts in the town.*

*That was before Mitsi Niceswanger and a dedicated group of tennis enthusiasts came on the scene. Since that time, the community has tennis courts where not only the school kids can play, but also the community can enjoy.*

*With the courts in place, Mitsi has spend many hours organizing a robust 10 And Under Tennis program, assisting the Girls' high school and middle school tennis teams, and, in general, helping the appreciation of tennis to grow.*

*Congratulations to Mitsi Niceswanger, 2013 GCTA Promotion of Tennis Award recipient.*



# GCTA Award Columbus Recreation & Parks

## Quentin Pruneau



*Columbus Recreation and Parks is proud to nominate Quentin Pruneau as our award winner. Quentin has been a participant in Columbus Recreation and Parks tennis program since he was 9 years old, Now Quentin is a scholar-athlete in the Columbus City Schools. He currently plays for the Whetstone High School team and was selected to the All City First Team in Doubles for Columbus City Schools in 2012.*

*Quentin returns each summer as a junior leader in the tennis program. The younger kids look to Quentin as a role model, especially when he explains that he is leaving early to take a summer physics class, not because he has to, but for fun.*

*He is no longer a young boy but a young man that is respected and well liked by staff and participants. His drive and determination will guide him to success in all that he wishes to do. Quentin expresses pride that he has "the opportunity to teach children how to play tennis and share (his) love of the game with them." Quentin is also thankful for the great friends he has made through tennis and knows it is a life-long sport that he will enjoy for many years.*

*The Recreation and Parks Department is proud to recognize Quentin Pruneau as the 2013 Columbus Recreation and Parks Award recipient.*



# GCTA Award Media

## Bill Rabinowitz

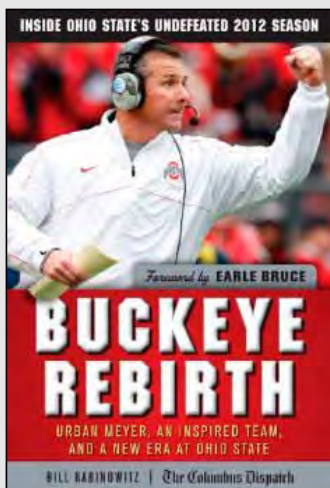


*When you open a Columbus Dispatch this fall, you are more than likely going to see articles about the Ohio State Buckeyes written by Bill Rabinowitz. What you may not realize is that most of what you know about the 2012 OSU Men's tennis team is thanks to Bill and his reporting of the exciting run by the Buckeye's to the NCAA Final Four last spring.*

*Although Bill doesn't play tennis now, he does report that he played tennis in high school for the Miami Valley School in Dayton. If Bill's memory serves him correctly, this team enjoyed a respectable run in the High School state tournament. Bill commends his coach Vin Romeo for his dedication to his teams. Romeo is one of the few state tennis coaches to reach 1,000 career match wins.*

*According to Bill, he enjoys covering tennis as it is a sport that requires coordination, fitness and mental toughness. He is glad to use his tennis experience and knowledge of tennis to enhance his coverage of the sport.*

*Congratulations to Bill, this year's GCTA Media Award winner.*



*Check out Bill's latest book on the Urban Meyer edition of the Buckeyes. Amazon.com describes the book as follows:  
Ohio State University's remarkable 2012 season are recalled in this fascinating account. It tells the story of Urban Meyer, who accepted the job as head coach at Ohio State just before the NCAA banned the Buckeyes from postseason play in 2012.*

*Meyer ultimately rose to the challenge of motivating a group of players to commit to the program despite the ban, and the book recounts what turned out to be one of the most remarkable seasons in Ohio State's 123-year history.*

*Filled with never-before-revealed details about Meyer and the 2012 season, this surprising and entertaining record provides a complete picture of the new age at Ohio State*



# GCTA Award Family of the Year

## The Sanfords



*In the words of Beth Sanford, “Tennis has become a common thread for (their) family.” Not only Brian and Beth travel all over the country for national junior tournaments with their daughters, but the whole family is involved in volunteer activities related to tennis. Beth volunteers as a member of the Midwest Junior Competition Committee,*

*and the daughters work with the local Buddy Up organization assisting athletes with Downs’ Syndrome.*

*Anna Sanford is rated a five star recruit by TennisRecruiting.com and has committed to playing at The Ohio State University. She recently was designated a USTA National Scholar Athlete, and is a top Midwest and National player in her age group.*

*Younger sister, Alexandra, is currently playing varsity tennis on the Olentangy Orange Girls’ tennis team as a freshman and is highly rated in both the Midwest and National rankings.*

*Again, according to Beth, “The discipline required for training and competition has fostered a team approach within our family. Anna and Alle train together daily and have an incredible bond. Tennis has encouraged strong academics, discipline and a lifestyle that enriches each of us and our family unit.” Well said.*

*Congratulations to the Sanfords, GCTA Family of the Year!*



# GCTA Award Margo Mansfield Award Female Players of the Year

## Francesca and Cristina DiLorenzo

*Individually the DiLorenzo sisters are highly ranked tennis players, together they are a force. Last fall, they decided to partner in the Ohio High School State Girls' tennis tournament. Francesca put it this way, "Cristina is a senior and this is our last chance to try to do something special together in tennis." And they did, winning the 2012 Division 1 State Girls' Doubles Championship, defeating the 2011 champs in the final.*

*Cristina has moved on the Xavier University this fall and Francesca returns to play for the New Albany Eagles. The Eagles lost only one senior to graduation last year (Cristina) and expect to compete for league and state honors again this year.*

*According to Cristina, "Tennis teaches hard work, discipline, responsibility, and mental fortitude. It teaches one how to learn from their mistakes and grow as an individual.*

*Congratulations to these two outstanding young women!*



# GCTA Award Margo Mansfield Award Female Player of the Year

## May Summers



*The Westerville Special Olympics tennis team competes using virtually the same rules as traditional tennis - court size, scoring, and one bounce per hit. These are the rules that May Summers plays by. Following the rules is not newsworthy, May Summers following these rules is. May is a wheelchair bound athlete. Many wheelchair tennis players use the two bounce rule, not May! May competes for the WSO tennis team following the same rules as the other athletes. What many of us would call "obstacles," May calls challenges, and she conquers them.*

*In the words of her coach, "This year May went above and beyond what was asked of her." May volunteered to get everyone warmed up, she helped to squeegee the courts after a rain, and is always the first to offer help to the WSO volunteers.*

*Marlena Smith, her Special Olympics' coach cites May's perseverance as one of her most inspirational quality. "Even if she is in pain, May never gives up. Even if she loses, May never gives up! She is always looking for way to improve. When she lost the championship match, she kept her head high and was a great sport. I am so proud of the silver medal she won!" May feels that tennis has enriched her life in multiple ways. It has helped her to become more active, and has presented her with opportunities that other sports can't.*

*Congratulations, May!*



# GCTA Award Male Player of the Year

## Canyon Teague



*Canyon Teague has always loved sports, a lot of sports. Somewhere along the line he decided to focus on tennis when he felt he wanted to be a well-rounded athlete and a person.*

*Last year Canyon represented Gahanna Lincoln at the Ohio State Boys' State Tournament reaching the semi-finals of that tournament. Missing his high school graduation ceremony because of his tennis commitments, the school principal and superintendent presented Canyon with his diploma on the courts prior to a 9 a.m. match in the competition. Canyon has taken his tennis to the collegiate level and is now playing at the University of Richmond in Virginia.*

*One of the aspects of the game that Canyon most appreciates is the number of people that he has been able to meet. He now has friends from all over the country. Yet, with all these friends he knows that when playing a tournament or a match, you must learn to trust yourself and your abilities. He has been able to transfer these abilities to everyday life helping him to solve problems.*

*Congratulations to Canyon Teague, the 2013 GCTA Male Player of the Year!*



**Ohio Valley Cup Champions  
Parkersburg, West Virginia  
June, 2013**



*(backrow l-r) Coach Steve Metzmaier, Nate Wallace, Jeffrey Melvin, Ryan Bibo, Eric Hunter, Coach Tyler Stephen, and (front row) Olivia Kompa, Ashley Thai, Audrey Berger, Rachael Morales*

**GCTA 2013 AREA JUNIOR QUALIFIERS  
May - June, 2013**

**Boy's 10 Singles**

*Joel Jose  
Trevor Ball*

**Girl's 10 Singles**

*Madeline Atway  
Ella Hazelbaker*

**Boy's 12 Singles**

*Robert Cash  
Jack Dabek*

**Girl's 12 Singles**

*Victoria Chang  
Kathleen Jones*

**Boy's 14 Singles**

*Jacob Wareti  
Eric Hunter*

**Girl's 14 Singles**

*Alexandra Sanford  
Ashley Tan*

**Boy's 16 Singles**

*Jeffrey Melvin  
Stephen Miller*

**Girl's 16 Singles**

*Francesca Dilorenzo  
Emma Stein*

**Boy's 18 Singles**

*Stu Little  
Matt Wareti*



## **MEN'S LEAGUE AGE DIVISION RESULTS**

### **Gold Division 45+**

#### **Champions ~Worthington Hills Country Club**

*Bob Birzer & Jim Capito, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Northam Park 1*

*Terry Finneran & Lenny Comeras, Captains*



### **Silver Division 55+**

#### **Champions ~ Northam Park Silver Eagles**

*Bob Mazzola & Dennis Stasiak, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Moundbuilders Country Club*

*Jay Gruenebaum, Captain*

### **Platinum Division 62+**

#### **Champions ~ Champions Tennis Club**

*JD Schultz & Steve Ballman, Captains*

*Runner Up ~Northam Park A*

*Randy Scholl & Howard Humphrey, Captains*

### **Diamond Division 70+**

#### **Champions ~ Champions Tennis Club**

*J. D. Schultz & Gordon McNamee, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Otterbein Tennis Club*

*Paul Burke & Bob Detwiler, Captains*



*Worthington Hills Gold Champs*

*For complete league results go to [www.gcta.tenniscodes.com](http://www.gcta.tenniscodes.com).*

## **MEN'S LEAGUE SKILL DIVISION RESULTS**

### **3.0 Division**

#### **Champions ~Lakes & Jefferson Country Club**

*Bud Holland & Andy Sinclair, Captains*

*Runner Up ~Capital*

*James Arney, Captain*

### **3.5 Division**

#### **Champions ~ Northam Park A**

*Pat Mattes & Ed Schmidt, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ New Albany Tennis Center*

*Greg Gillman & Dave LaRue, Captains*



*Northam Park A  
3.5 Division Champs*

### **4.0 Division**

#### **Champions ~ Northam Park C**

*Rob Hildreth & Greg Zimmerman, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Westerville Tennis Club*

*Keith Ramsey & Alan Litsky, Captains*

### **Open Division**

#### **Champions ~ Reynoldsburg Tennis Club**

*Randy Kruger, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Westerville Tennis Club A*

*Mike Rau, Captain*

### **GCTA MEN'S**

#### **2013 INVITATIONAL RESULTS**

**3.5 Division Winners** - Sanjay Mansukhani & Vijay Chellappan, Northam Park A

**Runners-up** - Fred Levy & Norm Wilson, Racquet Club TC

**4.0 Division Winners** - Preston Engels & Bryan Rogers, New Albany TC

**Runners-Up** - Jacob "Stick" Rice & Suren Manoharon, Northam Park A

**Open Winners** - Scott Baker & Randy Kruger, Reynoldsburg TC

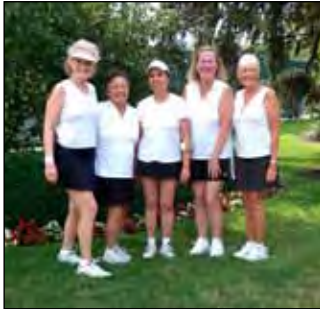
**Runners Up** - Mike Rau & RJ Lemaster, Westerville TC A

**Diamond Division Winners** - John Campbell & John Mason, Champions TC

**Runners-Up**--Dan Witteman & Gordon McNamee, Champions TC



# Great Summer Tennis in the Greater Columbus community.





## **WOMEN'S CAREER LEAGUE CHAMPIONS**

### **Career 3.0 and Below Division Champions ~ Northam Park 1**

*Shelley Straub, Captain*  
*Runner Up ~ Swim & Racquet 1*  
*Mary Reed, Captain*

### **Career 3.5 Division Champions ~ New Albany Country Club**

*Cherie Nelson, Captain*  
*Runner Up ~ Granville Tennis*  
*Lisa Bazley & Lori Brown, Captains*

### **Career 4.0 and Above Division Champions ~ Pickerington Central High School**

*Kelli Rings & Brittany Rings, Captains*  
*Runner Up ~ Players Club Tennis*  
*Lori Carter & Lindsey Boyer, Captains*



*Career 3.0 ~ Northam Park 1*



*Career 4.0 ~ Pickerington Central High School*



*Career 3.5 ~ New Albany Country Club*

*For complete league results go to [www.gcta.tenniscores.com](http://www.gcta.tenniscores.com).*





*Gold Division - Scioto Country Club 2*



*2.5 Division ~ JeffersonCountry Club*



*3.0 Division ~ New Albany Country Club*



*3.5 Division ~ Northam Park 2*



*4.0 Division ~ Swim & Racquet Tennis*



*4.5 Division ~ Worthington Hills CC*

## **WOMEN'S DAYTIME LEAGUE CHAMPIONS**

### **Gold Division**

#### **Champions ~ Scioto Country Club 2**

*Marilyn Davis & Debbie Brooks, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Columbus Country Club*

*Blythe Brown & Barbara Koch, Captains*

### **2.5 Division**

#### **Champions ~ Jefferson Country Club**

*Teresa Spangler & Lisa Dolder, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ New Albany Country Club*

*Gina Stelluti & Tracy Patrick, Captains*

### **3.0 Division**

#### **Champions ~ New Albany Country Club**

*Lori Weiner, Captain*

*Runner Up ~ Swim & Racquet Club*

*Lauren Keeler & Amy Cullen, Captains*

### **3.5 Division**

#### **Champions ~ Northam Park 2**

*Anna Grund & Jamie Haddow, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Kinsale Tennis*

*Heidi Bailey & Jenn Ridgeway, Captains*

### **4.0 Division**

#### **Champions ~ Swim & Racquet Club**

*Sue Loveland, Captain*

*Runner Up ~ Cardinal Antrim Park Tennis*

*Sally Thorburn, Captain*

### **4.5 Division**

#### **Champions ~ Worthington Hills Country Club**

*Joni Mitchell & Eva Nourse, Captains*

*Runner Up ~ Northam Park*

*Theresa Robenalt & Mary Sims, Captains*



# Usta Adult Summer League Winners - Summer 2013

*7.0 Mixed 18&Over Jones Middle School/Eckleman*

*8.0 Mixed 18&Over Racquet Club/Dummit*

*9.0 Mixed 18&Over Racquet Club/Dummit*

*8.0 Women's Adult 55&Over Olympic/Aronson Augspurger*

*9.0 Women's Adult 55&Over UAHS/Kinnard*

*9.0 Men's Adult 55&Over Olympic/Criswell*

*6.5 Women's Combo Racquet Club/Shaffer*

*7.5 Women's Combo Racquet Club/Fukumori*

*8.5 Women's Combo Racquet Club/Nini*



UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION

## OVTA District Championship Winners

### OVTA District Champions

*Adult 40 & Over 3.5W Olympic/Arnold*

*Adult 18&Over 4.0W Racquet Club/Nini*

*Adult 18&Over 5.0M Wickertree/Russo*

*Adult 18&Over 4.0M Scarborough/Mead*

*Adult 18&Over 4.5M Players Club/Lilly*

*55&Over 9.0M Worthington Hills CC/Criswell*

### Ohio State Champions

*Adult 40 & Over 3.5W Olympic/Arnold*

*Adult 18&Over 4.0M Scarborough/Mead*

*Adult 18&Over 4.5M Players Club/Lilly*



### MidWest Section Champions

*Men's 4.5 18&Over Players Club/Lilly plays October 18-20 at the Jim Reffkin Tennis Club in Tucson, Arizona*

*Women's 3.5 40&Over Olympic/Arnold plays October 11-13 at the Indian Wells Tennis Center in Indian Wells, CA*

## GCTA GRANTS

*The Greater Columbus Tennis Association is committed to promoting tennis at the local level. To that end, the GCTA offers grants to help organizations and/or individuals initiate or expand tennis programs and activities. Grants may be used to start instructional programs or leagues for players of all ages, abilities, and populations. In addition, grants may be used for tennis equipment, tennis advertising, and other tennis projects. This year the grant committee awarded over \$24,000 to area tennis program.*

*Listed below are the organizations that received GCTA grants this year.*

**Kids Club Tennis**

**Buddy Up Tennis**

**Ace with Love**

**Tennis in Physical Educ. Canal Win**

**Steppin' 2Tennis Program**

**Southwestern Youth Team Tennis**

**Champions Summer Clinics**

**Canal Winchester Rec Tennis**

**Pick10Tennis**

**Westerville Special Olympics Tennis**





*If you have seen a lot more young tennis players on area courts, it is probably due to our 10 And Under Tennis initiative. Currently, we are in the last year of a three year program, but don't expect it will be the end. So many new tennis players are beginning their lifelong love affair with the game.*

*Our Youth Team Tennis program reached over 800 kids this summer. Many of these new tennis enthusiasts will be moving to indoor clubs to continue the 10 and under experience.*

*With the help of our USTA, OVTA, and GCTA grant monies, we have introduced tennis into over 170 area elementary schools reaching 50,000 students. Over 100 tennis courts in Columbus now have blended lines to facilities 10ANDUNDER TENNIS.*

*This summer 800 kids participated in community Youth Team Tennis programs.*

*Watch out world! Here comes the next generation of tennis pros!*



# In Memorium

**Andy Alexander**

**February 18, 1930 - September 8, 2013**

*On September 8th of this year, GCTA lost one of its founding fathers, Andy Alexander. Andy and his wife, Carol, were a constant presence in our organization for over 30 years.*

*Andy was a long-standing board member of the GCTA Board, twice served as president. During his tenure on the GCTA Board, Andy established the Junior Development Foundation, Junior Excellence Program for competitive players, and the Columbus Recreation and Parks program for beginning players.*

*Not only did Andy serve the Columbus tennis community, but he served as Vice-president and as a member of the ranking committee for the USTA/Ohio Valley Tennis Association. Andy supported local professional tennis serving as the chairman of tournament operations for the Buckeye Boys Ranch tournament, and as an administrator of the Avon Futures and Big Bear Challenge events.*

*Through the years, Andy received numerous awards including the USTA/Ohio Valley Tennis Association's Lee Gillespie Award, the USTA/Midwest Section's Stanley Malless Award and the United States Tennis Association's Community Service Award. In 1980 both the USTA/Ohio Valley and the USTA/Midwest Section awarded Andy and his wife Carol these organizations' Family of the Year awards.*

*We of the GCTA will miss the enthusiasm and commitment that Andy brought to our organization.*





## GREATER COLUMBUS TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Promoting and Growing Tennis in Central Ohio



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- RESULTS

### Latest GCTA News

[Tennis Scores for Women | Men](#)

TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2013

#### GCTA Grant Monies Fund Special Olympics Tennis in Westerville

The Westerville Special Olympics tennis program, funded in part by the Greater Columbus Tennis Association was very active this season. Listed below are basic components of this program.

- YAP (Young Athlete's Program) –a six week program introduced youth ages 4-7 to the basic skills of tennis.
- A skills program geared toward our traditional athletes focusing on tennis skills.
- A weekly program running five months working with athletes who have already gone through our skills program.
- WSO athletes participated in the Ohio Special Olympics.



Pictures from Westerville Special Olympics - Click to enlarge

Included in the above photos are the following players: picture 1: May, Kody, Mocelyn, Marlena Smith (Director), and Amber, and in picture 2: Kody, Jocelyn, and May.

#### Disclaimer

##### Upcoming Events

GCTA Board Meeting	Sep. 19, 2013 @7pm
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**Remember When?**  
Click to view GCTA picture archive



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