



# IRVINGTON CLUB

## NEWS

Celebrating  
120 years

DECEMBER 2018

### President's Message

Dear Members,

The Board is in the process of making some important decisions and we remain eager to receive member input. We are discussing the possibility of replacing the outdoor doubles court with a clay court; we are looking at additional pool upgrades; and, we are discussing ways in which to make the club accessible to individuals from a broader range of backgrounds. We have sent out blasts seeking member input, we conducted a survey to determine member priorities for pool upgrades, we are hosting an Open Forum on December 4th at 6 pm to discuss these issues (which will have already occurred if you are reading this in hard copy), and we invite members who cannot attend the forum to email us or talk to us about these potential changes.

At this point, we have good information about member priorities for the pool. We hope to learn about member interest in clay courts at the December 4th forum. For those who are unable to attend, I can report that the estimated cost to install the court is \$70,000, and the annual maintenance fee is estimated at \$5,000 - \$6,000. If the clay court is installed before needed repairs are done, there will be a savings of \$6,850, since that money would have been spent repairing the hard courts. If there appears to be interest in clay courts, the Board will seek additional feedback from members before taking action.

Finally, in last month's President's Message, I raised a question about the Club's culture and drew a connection between the increasing affluence and exclusivity of the Irvington neighborhood to the increasing affluence of the Club's members. I also said I would advocate for creative ways to make the Club more accessible to individuals with a broader range of backgrounds.

So far, the response to the access question has been overwhelmingly positive, and the Community Committee has put together a proposal addressing this issue. The proposal is to invite three families that meet a specified income requirement to become members. The families who meet the income criteria and are selected would not pay an initiation fee or monthly dues, but they would pay for court usage, drills, lessons and other user fees. These families would not be counted in the overall membership numbers so individuals on the wait list would not move up or down, and their wait time would not be impacted, by this proposal. The individuals who meet the criteria and are selected would not be identified, so their status as access members would not be known to other members.

We make the best decisions as a board when we have good member input, so please let us know your thoughts before our December 19th monthly board meeting.

Amy



2131 NE Thompson Street, Portland, OR 97212 • 503.287.8749

## Notes From the General Manager

Dear Irvington Club Members,

The month of November has quickly passed us by - so, welcome December! I hope you had time to spend with family and loved ones during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Our annual wine tasting event was well attended with 90 participants. I want to extend a special 'Thank You' to the vendors that brought their delicious wines for us to taste. They included: David Hill Vineyard & Winery, Vincent Winery, Nemarniki Vineyard & Winery, Elk Cove Vineyards, Mitchell Wine Group, Viola Wine Cellars and Coopers Hall Winery. Also, thank you to Clint Benson for his salmon samplings and to Samuel Eisen-Meyer for the wonderful music. Also, thank you to Karmen Von Arx for the fantastic appetizers and her help in 'pulling it all together!'

What's happening at the Club:

- **Saturday, December 1st from 10 am - 5 pm & Sunday, December 2nd from 10 am - 4pm** — Dana Herbert's Holiday Sample Sale in the ballroom
- **Tuesday, December 4th** ~ 6:00 - 8:00 pm — Membership Open Forum in the Ballroom
- **Thursday, December 13th** — Ladies Drill and White Elephant Gift Exchange (drill is at 10:45 am and the potluck brunch and gift exchange starts at noon). Sign-ups are at the front desk.

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays and, as always, I hope to see you at the Club!

Barbara

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

*By: Steve Hall, Chair of the Oregon Tennis Historical Committee*

#### **Barbara Thompson**

#### **First Female President of the Irvington Club**

*The following text is from the Oregon Journal on March 11, 1974.*

*The article is featured in a section titled "Scene & Heard" by Lisa Paterson*

When Mrs. Donald Thompson was elected president of the Irvington Club, and her picture appeared on the Journal's Northwest Living pages, it marked the first time in three-quarters of a century that a woman had been president of the club. Barbara had been president of Portland PanHellenic and Alameda Parent Teach Association and has been active in Alpha Delta Pi as state membership chairman, last year being named the outstanding alumna from the Pacific Northwest at the convention. As she acquired these honors, she acquired suitable congratulations and caused no ripples of astonishment.

But now, women from other private clubs are looking at the board's directors with new questions at the back of their minds. (Just questions, gentlemen, no need for panic.) Barbara's husband Donald, is advertising and sales promotion manager for Halton Tractor Co. They have three children: Sue and Bob at Grant High School and Steve at Alameda.

Barbara's father, Tommy Williams, played lots of tennis in Yakima in the 30's, where he won both doubles and singles championships. His daughter didn't like the game very much, and it was not until she took tennis at the University of Oregon that she ever studied the game. She also discovered that she preferred golf. About five years ago, she capitulated to the charms of tennis. She and her partner, Mrs. Henry Blauer, are on the "A" ladder for women's doubles at Irvington Club, and that's no mean achievement for a late blooming tennis player.

Barbara was first elected to the board of trustees in 1971, and has been secretary and vice president. Other officers elected are Roger Zener, vice president; Doris Popple, secretary, and John Geiger, treasurer. Geiger is a new member of the board as are Roy Tokerud and Paul Nagel. Other board members are Jim Jackson, Ed Woffard and Mike Kohlhoff.

### 2019 TOURNAMENTS

#### **Junior Tennis Championships**

*Presented by Big League Chew*  
January 4th - 6th

#### **Mixed Doubles**

January 25th - February 2nd

#### **Oregon State Senior Men**

March 14th - 17th

#### **adidas Open**

Pro Am ~ June 17th  
Tournament ~ June 18th - 23rd

#### **Junior Immediate Tournament**

August 15th - 18th

#### **Carolyn Lumber Championships**

October 6th - 19th

### Junior Team Tennis

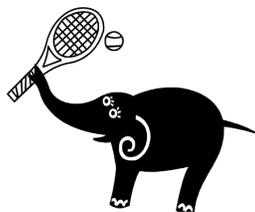
#### **December**

2nd ~ 12pm JTT 14s ~ (Laurent)

9th ~ 12pm JTT 14s ~ (Laurent)

## White Elephant Drill

**White Elephant  
Christmas Drill  
Gift Exchange  
& Potluck**



**Thursday, December 13th**

10:45 - 11:45 am ~ Drill (*free*)

12:00 pm ~ Potluck Lunch & Gift Exchange

**Please sign up at the Front Desk or email  
and let us know what you'll be bringing  
for the potluck lunch!**

[pmchugh@irvingtonclub.com](mailto:pmchugh@irvingtonclub.com)

## Junior Tennis Lessons

**Session runs December 3rd - December 13th**

### Futures & Power

Monday & Wednesday ~ 3:45 - 5:00 pm

### Pee Wee - Level 1

Tuesday & Thursday ~ 3:15 - 4:00 pm

### Futures - Level 2

Tuesday & Thursday ~ 4:00 - 5:00 pm

### Power & High School

Tuesday & Thursday ~ 5:00 - 6:15 pm

### **January 2019 Lesson Sign-up**

Session runs January 2nd - January 31st (5 weeks)

**Members:** Monday, December 24th @ 8:30 am

**Non-Members:** Monday, December 31st @ 8:30 am

## Joey's Fitness & Body Sculpting

### **Strength, Agility & Core Conditioning Class**

**Mon & Wed:** 8:30-9:30 am & 9:30-10:30 am

**Tues & Thurs:** 5:30-6:30 pm / **Fri & Sat:** 8:30-9:30 am

This program is specifically geared for those looking to improve their overall cardiovascular fitness, muscle toning and weight loss.

### **Teen Conditioning**

**Monday thru Thursday:** 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Tailored specifically for teens that are looking to improve their overall fitness. It emphasizes strength, conditioning, core training, agility, and quickness. Improve your sport performance.

*Weight room orientations and individual personal training  
may be arranged by contacting Joey at:  
[fitness1st@gmail.com](mailto:fitness1st@gmail.com)*

## Calendar of Events

### DECEMBER

1st & 2nd - Holiday Sample Sale                      2nd - Hanukkah Begins  
4th - Membership Open Forum                      19th - Board Meeting  
24th - Christmas Eve (*club closes @ 1:30 pm*)  
25th - Christmas Day (*club closed*)  
31st - New Year's Eve (*club closes @ 6 pm*)  
January 1st - New Year's Day (*club opens @ 9 am*)

## City League Team Matches

**All matches 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm**

### **Tuesday, December 4th**

Team J (Michelle Zawadzki & Susan Crabtree)  
vs. West Hills Racquet Club

### **Wednesday, December 5th**

Team C (Sherry Rogers & Kathy Windish)  
vs. West Hills Racquet Club - Orange

### **Tuesday, December 11th**

Team H (Mary Stevenson & Andrea Brown)  
vs. Portland Tennis Center

## Community Outreach

By: *Bernadette Diepenbrock*

Dear Irvington Club Families,

Hello! When I am not at the pool, I am usually in the gym! For the 2nd consecutive year, I have 72 students signed up to participate on basketball teams for Kelly Elementary School!



All students who are interested in learning how to play basketball, get to play on a team at no cost. For many of our students, this will be the only team experience they will have. How valuable it will be for them to learn new skills and most importantly, how to be a good teammate! I am able to offer this experience to our families at no cost because I have asked for sponsors to cover the costs of the program. If you (or your company) are interested in contributing, all donations (checks made out to Kelly Elementary School) are tax deductible and every bit helps: \$15 for a pair of shorts all the way up to \$700 to fully sponsor a team. Thank you for your consideration!

For more info - here is a link to a story from last season that aired on KPTV:

[https://www.kptv.com/news/basketball-program-at-kelly-elementary-in-play-thanks-to-efforts/video\\_39a5c1ad-121c-5171-abf7-917c2382ff50.html](https://www.kptv.com/news/basketball-program-at-kelly-elementary-in-play-thanks-to-efforts/video_39a5c1ad-121c-5171-abf7-917c2382ff50.html)

## Member Scoreboard

### Denny Cardinal Cup

John Popplewell and Roger North helped lead the Oregon team to a tie with British Columbia in the annual Denny Cardinal Cup competition held at the Vancouver Lawn & Badminton Club in Vancouver B.C. on October 27th - 28th.

John won three doubles matches with Glenn Gerstmar in the Men's 70's, while Roger won both his doubles matches in the Men's 75's with partners Art Roper and Frank Rees.

This was the 60th annual match between Oregon, Washington and British Columbia's top players.

Final score: OR 19, BC 19, and WA 10

## Member Rankings

Two club members have represented the Irvington Club on the USTA National Seniors rankings lists this year.

On the USTA's 12-month rolling player rankings, John Popplewell and partner Chuck White (CA) are ranked #3 in National Men's 75 Team Doubles, and Popplewell is ranked #10 in National Men's 75 Individual Doubles.

Roger North is ranked #14 in National Men's 75 Singles.

In the Pacific Northwest Section rankings, Popplewell and North are ranked #1 in the Men's 75 Team Doubles, and #1 and #2 respectively in the Men's 75 Individual Doubles.



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### Staff

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Administrative Assistant - Pam McHugh  
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Front Desk - Conor Jeans-Gail  
Front Desk - Lisa Lyon  
Front Desk - Kevin Hanzlik  
Front Desk - Brenda Moore  
Subs: Donna Dorsey • Alex Emerson  
Terry Folen • Katie Guyot  
Emily Roberts • Sarah Thomas  
Wendy Weddle  
Pool Manager - Bernadette Diepenbrock



# Community Corner Spotlights ... Stephanie Vickers

By: Mary Knocke



From the Peace Corps in Liberia from 1971 to 1974 to helping train early childhood educators and building an early childhood school there, Stephanie Vickers has had a long connection with the country. This connection is a wonderful example of an Irvington Club member using her teaching expertise and time to volunteer to improve educational opportunities for children and their teachers.

As a result of teaching in Liberia as a Peace Corps volunteer, Stephanie became involved with Friends of Liberia (FOL), a non-profit started by former volunteers in 1989 with the mission of helping Liberia. The need was huge given the disruption of educational institutions during the Liberian civil war and the Ebola epidemic.

From 2001 to 2013 Stephanie traveled to Liberia to serve as the administrator of FOL's early childhood education and literacy-training program. After working with Stephanie at one of FOL's yearly trainings, another former Peace Corps volunteer and

his wife decided to build an early childhood school in his town of service and staff it with FOL trained early childhood teachers. Stephanie introduced him to a Liberian Principal who purchased property in the town of Gbarnga where they were able to fund the construction of a new preschool. This couple asked Stephanie to travel to Liberia in September, to help open the school. Stephanie was able to get into the "nuts and bolts" of opening this school, almost literally. She supervised some of the construction workers, worked with the staff, ordered furniture and purchased teaching supplies and kitchenware.



The school is for 3, 4, and 5 year olds and while she was there on October 5th, the community was invited to open 20 three-year-old children to its first class. Subsequent classes will incorporate 4 and 5 year olds the next two years. Tuition will be \$25 per year that includes a school uniform and two meals daily. As part of their investment in the children's education parents will be required to volunteer at the school once a week, a new concept for Liberians.



Congratulations to Stephanie for her devoted volunteerism that has made such a difference for children and teachers.



## Community Corner ~ Blazer Game Volunteer Night

On Sunday, November 4, the ITC Community Outreach Committee worked with our Lisa Lyon to support her Decoding Dyslexia program by selling 50/50 raffle tickets at the Portland Trailblazer game. Over 20 club members volunteered, selling more than \$9,000 in raffle tickets. The lucky winner received just over \$4,500 and Decoding Dyslexia received \$2,250. Our thanks to all who participated in its success!

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