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### **Happy Valentine's Day!**

Instead of the ho-hum gifts of chocolate or flowers, how about giving your valentine a gift certificate for the pro shop, personal training, a swim lesson, or a tennis lesson?? Or...perhaps chocolates AND an ATFC gift certificate?



### **Grand Reopening Weekend = A Grand Success!!**

Our January club Grand Reopening was kicked off on Friday morning as we hosted the Ashland Chamber of Commerce Greeters group. The meeting gave Lexi, staff, and members the opportunity to talk about the newly renovated ATFC and to give the 50+ Chamber business owners in attendance the chance to see our new and improved facility with their own eyes. The reviews were resoundingly positive!



On Saturday morning, just before the Open House began, Frank Inn, with his wife, Cheryl, conducted a tennis clinic for a number of Frank's former juniors, now with families of their own, allowing them to check out ATFC. A bit later in the morning some Chamber of Commerce staff returned for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate our grand reopening. (Lexi reports that cutting a ribbon with giant scissors is not as easy as it looks...)

While the community at large had been invited to tour the club between 10 and 4 on Saturday and Sunday, we all wondered if the combination of traditional and more modern marketing efforts announcing our big Open House would bear fruit; fortunately, we didn't have to wait long to find out. Beginning promptly at 10 on Saturday morning, the Rogue Valley community responded to the club with a resounding "yes"! And the buzz continued throughout the weekend.

All weekend long there was excitement in the air and the club had a lovely and festive feel with lots of activity, food, and drink. The scores of community members who came to see the newly renovated club kept the staff and three members who graciously gave of their time conducting tours for and answering questions of prospective members, very busy. Sincere thanks to those members: Jo Wayles, Kelly Sacks, and Tom Kennedy. A special shout out also to Sydney who soldiered through ten-hour days at the front desk and to Shannon for her decorating wizardry which created a wonderful party atmosphere; she also organized all of the food including amazing cupcakes shaped like tennis balls and cakes in the form of tennis courts.

**February 2018**

### **Hours of Operation**

Monday-Thursday	6:00am-9:00pm
Friday	6:00am-7:30pm
Saturday	7:00am-6:00pm
Sunday	7:00am-4:00pm

Throughout both days the club was busy with nonstop visits from community folks; in addition, club members partaking in their usual club activities added to the vibrant atmosphere. From 1-3 on both days Chip and Gail ran on-court drills which were well-attended by members and non-members alike; Susan Jacques and Richard Lawler were also on hand with demonstration and descriptions of their yoga and Pilates classes.



HIP, HIP, HOORAY!

### **ATFC Website**

The new club website is now complete. If you haven't seen it for a while, do check out the impressively updated version: <http://ashlandtfc.org>

### **Level I/Beginning Hatha Yoga: Mondays from 8:15-9:30 am**

For those new to Yoga, wanting to restart a Yoga practice, or just wishing for an easeful start to the week, come and move through the foundational postures (asana), learn or refresh breathing practices (pranayama), and relax deeply with Yoga Nidra. Taught by Susan.

### **Team Beckett Rocks it at Salishan**

On a mighty stormy January weekend, the ATFC team captained by Joanne Beckett made a long trek to Salishan for the One Weekend League (OWL) 55+ 7.0 competition. Over three days the talented team played five matches (a total of 15 doubles matches) and won all five (winning 14 of 15)!! For the fifth and final match ATFC faced Salem, the other undefeated team, to determine the weekend's champion; ATFC brought it all to the table and swept that match. Extraordinary tennis, wonderful camaraderie, great leadership! Congratulations to the hard-working teammates: Joanne Beckett, Bruce Beckett, Bill Findley, Steven Frimkess, Sally Jones, John Schleining, Mike Turner, Valerie Turner, and Laura Winters. Next step is Sectionals in November. Way to go, ATFC!!

### **Pro Shop**

The Pro Shop is now stocked with tennis shoes (Ladies' New Balance and Men's Adidas), racquets (Wilson and Pacific) over grips, Thorlo socks, and more! Check it out.

## Ms. Martina Mannerstilova

**Dearest MMM:** Firstly, I want to say that I really appreciated your commentary at the recent Aussie Open; we at ATFC are wondering if you'd consider bailing on that gig next year to instead be the head analyst at our Century Tournament. Our Director of Tennis, **Chip Blackmon**, will be in touch with your people... (Two breakfasts and lunches are included; we might be able to arrange for housing.) Secondly, I was emptying my truckload of household garbage into the ATFC dumpster yesterday and I believe I got the stink-eye from a fellow club member. Huh?? Exactly what does she think a dumpster is for? **Warmly,**



### **Cleaning out the Garage**

**My dear COTG:** Congratulations to all the Century Tournament participants and winners. Over in Melbourne, many fans were torn between watching the Wozniacki/Halep; Federer/Cilic matches and the ATFC finals which were televised here.... & **THE TRASH CONTAINERS AT THE CLUB ARE FOR TRASH GENERATED AT THE CLUB.** Clear enough?? Best, MMM

### **Front Desk Staff**

The newest friendly face at the front desk is that of Merilyn Tribble, a 4.0 tennis player who worked at the front desk and also taught tennis to the 10 and under juniors at RVST. Welcome, Merilyn!!

### **Chip's Tennis Tip of the Month**

#### **Lob the Return**

Many tactics in tennis are designed primarily to make the opponents uncomfortable and lobbing the return is no exception. Lobbing off the return creates instant chaos on the other side of the net; in many cases it forces a change of position for your opponents and gives your net player a chance to pick off a weak reply. If you have opponents who bear down tight on the net or whose serves are drawing weak returns for put-aways, throw up the lob return to mix things up. As a general rule with the lob, try to keep it over the non-dominant shoulder of the net player (Right handers: Left shoulder; Left handers: Right shoulder). That way if you don't execute a great lob you won't be sending your partner to the hospital from the overhead reply!!

### **Century Plus Tournament**

After some exciting and hard-fought matches, the results were:

**Men's:** Steve Sacks/Michael Gooding def. Peter Finkle/Lonnie Lindsey  
7-5, 6-3

**Women's:** Barbara Bailey/Nancy Walz def. Christie Chiang/Barbara Vasquez 6-3, 6-3

**Mixed 7.5:** Pat Bibee/Karl Carstensen def. Jody Hodges/Doug Elam  
7-6(5), 6-4  
**Mixed 8.0+:** Shannon Rio/Michael Gooding def. Kelly Sacks/Steve Sacks 5-7, 6-4, 1-0 (12-10)



## Adult Tennis Classes—February 2018

### Mondays:

9:30 am — Ladies Drills (1.5 hr)  
5:30 pm — Singles open Drill (1 hr)  
6:30 pm — Cardio Tennis (1 hr)

### Tuesdays:

10:45 — Gail's Doubles Drop-in (1 hr)

### Wednesdays:

9:30 — 3.0/3.5 open Drill (1.5 hr)

### Thursdays:

12 noon — 4.0+ open Drill (1 hr)

### Fridays:

10:45 am — Gail's Doubles Drop-in (1 hr)  
12 noon — Gail's Skills Class (1 hr)

### Saturdays:

9:00 am — 4.0+ open Drill (1.5 hr)  
10:30 am — 3.0/3.5 open Drill (1.5 hr)

## Junior Tennis Classes—February 2018

**Hummingbirds (ages 4-6) (Red Ball):**  
Mondays & Wednesdays 4pm – 4:30 pm

**Sparrows (ages 7-10) Beginner (Orange Ball):**  
Mondays & Wednesdays 4:30pm-5:30pm

**U18 Beginner/Intermediate (ages 11-18):**  
Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 pm

**U18 High School and Tournament Players (Pro Approval Required):**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:15-6:15pm