

RACONTEUR

APRIL & MAY 2016 | A PUBLICATION OF THE HOUSTON RACQUET CLUB | www.houstonracquetclub.com



3 | SOME LIKE IT HAUTE

MEN'S & WOMEN'S FASHION SHOW

Friday, April 15 • 6:30PM • Ballroom

Tequila Sipping • Tapas Stations • Spanish Flamenco Entertainment





PRESIDENT

MICHAEL MONK
Club President



2015-2016 HRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gayette Eicher – Secretary & Finance
Leah Leggett
Dominic Mandola – D&E Committee
Mark Meyers
Michael Monk - President
Lynn Murphy
Brad Patt – Ex-Officio
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Hilary Purcell
Mindy Rice
Craig Smyser
Mindy Voyles
Danny Weingeist
Brad White – VP & Fitness Committee

HRC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD

President – Cathy Lassetter
Social Vice President – Bethany Factor
Tennis Vice President – Kristi Schaeper
Secretary – Veronica Von Blon
Treasurer – Tonja Brown
Bridge – Ruthe Wilson
NSWCCC – Sue Bramlette
Parliamentarian – Gayette Eicher

Our daughter, Sara, asked me about Swim Team this morning – I guess that means Spring must be here! I'm noticing the traffic and activity level picking up at our Club, so other families must be aware of this season change as well. For my family, this means baseball and softball...and a lot more tennis and golf. It also means more time on the Redwood Deck, without the winter "mushroom heaters". I really love this time of year.

The big story today is that our Renovation Committee, led by Leland Putterman, is making great progress on our Clubhouse renovation project. Construction is still scheduled to being July/August – just a few months from now! Several focus groups representing a cross-section of membership interests have been working hard to vet various aspects of the plan. It's a very healthy process, as it allows critical member input and feedback, without too many "cooks in the kitchen". And I'm very excited to be a part of it.

One more thing – I recently attended a Senior Activities Committee meeting, chaired by Ron Fisher. I was absolutely stunned to see the calendar of events/activities these folks organize every year. From behind-the-scenes NASA tours, to dinner theater, to overnight trips to wineries and ranches. I was exhausted just looking at their calendar. And I'm told their events usually sell out well in advance. This may be the most active committee at our Club. It's great to know that HRC has something to offer for every age group. Kudos to our Seniors!

See you at the Club!

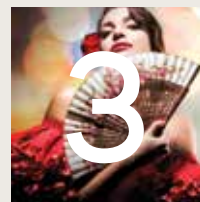
DID YOU KNOW?

The Board recently approved a Legacy Membership option for our 10 year + tenured Voting Members to offer their children or grandchildren! This is a wonderful opportunity for the family legacies to continue here at HRC. A Legacy Member will be able to join at the Board approved preferred initiation fee which is one-third off the current initiation fee associated with their age category! Please contact Cathy Lassetter, Director of Membership at lassetter@houstonracquetclub.com 713.464.4811 ext. 121.

OUR MISSION THE CLUB FOR A LIFETIME

To instill, inspire and promote love
and enjoyment of the game of tennis;
to encourage athletic and
social fitness activities
in an exceptional family environment,
and to satisfy the social,
recreational and fitness needs
of our members
in a congenial atmosphere.

SNEAK PEEK



3
FEATURE
SOME LIKE IT HAUTE
Men's & Women's Fashion Show

DEPARTMENTS

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SOME LIKE IT HAUTE

MEN'S & WOMEN'S FASHION SHOW FRIDAY, APRIL 15 • 6:30PM • BALLROOM

Hosted by the Women's Association

Damas y caballeros enjoy a preview of the season's hottest fashions as our HRC friends mingle down the runway with professional models. This entertaining show is brought to us by Fashion Event Producer Lenny Matuszewski!

6:30PM Cocktails & Aperitivos Passed
7:15PM Runway Show
8:00PM Tapas Stations, Tequila Sipping, Spanish Flamenco Entertainment

GENERAL ADMISSION
\$50++ includes Spanish tapas, tequila sipping & 1 drink ticket

VIP ADMISSION
\$100++ includes Spanish tapas, tequila sipping, 2 drink tickets, exclusive VIP seating & swag bag

HOST COMMITTEE

Bethany & Canaan Factor
Christine & Ty Hoffer
Carolyn & Leland Putterman
Heather & Ryan McKenzie
Kimberly & Austin Davis
Kris & Jimmy Vallee
Ashley & Russ Holmsten
Danielle & Brad Ryan

HRC MODELS

Greg Powell
Thomas Cook
Roberto Velasco
Eddie Bialas
Johnnie Randolph
Mallory Williams
Nanette West
Jill Perez
Lindsay Mousoudakis
Laura Grau

Reservations 713.464.4811. 48-hour cancellation policy.



MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

CATHY LASSETTER
Director of
Membership



THOMAS PREUML
COO, GM

EYE ON THE BALL



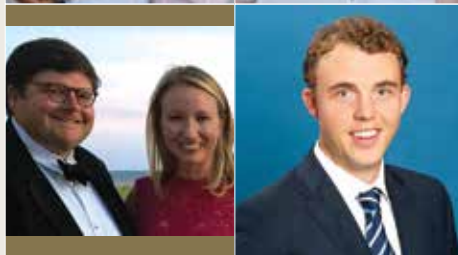
JOHN ALAPPATT & AMY GASKIN

His: Physician, Houston Retina Associates
Her: Student
Child: Alex (2)
Sponsors: Brad Patt, Scott Stafford
Referrals: Trey Willerson, Michael Russell



KRISTIN & CORBIN BLACKFORD

His: Attorney/Associate – Bracewell Giuiliani, LLP
Sponsors: Bryan Dumesnil, Bootsie Le Feuvre,
Chris Blackard



JULIE & SCOTT GRANDT

His: Investment Banking/VP, Goldman, Sachs & Co.
Her: Assistant District Attorney, Harris County
Sponsors: Sean & Mindy Rice, Shane Young
Referral: Agnes Perkins



MARÍA ELENA & GREGORY GRANNEN

His: Director of Strategic Planning, Lyondellbasell
Her: Recently Retired, AEI Services
Children: Thomas (13), Sebastian (11)
Sponsors: Gretchen Smith, Nancy Woo



NANCY & CRAIG HORACEK

His: Project Manager, Air Liquide
Global E&C Solutions
Her: Sales Manager, Action Resources
Child: Stephen
Sponsors: Brad Patt, Tom Kellagher



JESSICA & MICHAEL KEEGAN

His: Real Estate/VP, NAI Partners
Her: Private Equity/I.R., Avalon Advisors
Sponsors: Henry Lartigue, John Ferruzzo
Referral: Patty Harris



JEAN & JAMES KRIVAN

His: Orthodontist, Darsey - Krivan Orthodontics
Her: Retired, Gerald Hines Interest
Sponsors: Brian Krivan, Sheryl & Mark Fisher

JAMES LOW

His: Corporate Banking/Associate, Scotiabank
Sponsors: Mark Meyers, Brad Patt, Erik Simpson

CAROLINA & GREG MCCORD

His: CPA/Partner, KPMG
Children: Joshua (12), Daniel (10)
Sponsors: Lee Zieben, Pauline & Bob Mertensotto,
Brett Agee

MIMI & CHAD MEACHAM

His: General Manager, D.L. Meacham, LL
Children: Mae (2), Hazel (5 mos)
Sponsors: Kelly & Steven Madden, Richard Pipkin
Referral: Whitney Moore

JULIE & MICHAEL MUSKAT

His: Attorney, Muskat, Martinez & Mahoney, LLP
Her: Attorney, BP
Children: Evelyn (9), Nathaniel (8mos)
Sponsors: Russell & Ellen Camp,
Leah & John Leggett

BARBARA & JEFF STEEN

His: SR VP Legal/HR, Oil States International
Children: Jake (19), Fletcher (4)
Sponsors: Leisha Mamera, Selina Stanford,
Tricia Zieben

A grand **exhibition match**, the **NSWCCC** (National Senior Women's Clay Court Championships), the **WOTT** (World Oilman's Tennis Tournament), **Mother's Day**, busy pools and end of school year parties, **Memorial Day**, along with full decks, tennis courts and parking lots can mean only one thing: **The busiest time of the year is upon us.** Every May when school lets out, the Club transforms (and vice versa in August). The quiet weekdays are gone, replaced by the laughter of kids, the sounds of the water features by the resort pool, and just a general buzz all around the Club.

One of my favorite spots is standing near Court 1 during one of the exhibition matches, observing the many spectators sitting next to the court, on the Courtside Café patio and the Pavilion, then scanning towards the Clubhouse and seeing a packed Redwood Deck, Grill Deck, Grill and Bar, full with members having a great time. There is so much energy, it is contagious.

I have been **in the hospitality business for 36 years, in the club business for 25 of those, and I am in my 8th year at the Club.** Having worked at 10 clubs before HRC, and having visited countless others through my involvement with CMAA (Club Managers Association of America), **I am amazed by what kind of special place HRC really is.** We are a vibrant and active family Club, with several generations of members enjoying their membership privileges in a club that was originally built on tennis, but has since become a full service country club (and for the record, one does not have to have a golf course on site to qualify for the country club designation). **For a club, it doesn't get any better than this.** I have been in clubs where the membership's average age was in the mid 70's, and they had policies in place that prohibited the necessary membership growth to sustain the club financially, which eventually led to its demise. Not at HRC! **Our membership's median age is in the low 50's, and the average age of Voting Members for the last two years is 42. We also have over 400 very active members 65 and older, and over 20 active Past Presidents on the membership roster – incredible!**

Many clubs wish for this type of healthy demographic. Even with the recent economic downturn, **membership interest remains high and HRC continues to go strong.** This is very encouraging as we plan ahead for another major transition with the upcoming renovation of our facilities.

A quick related update: With the input from the **Renovation & Enhancement Committee**, and feedback from members at large, the schematic designs have been revised several times. We are getting close to a version we can present to you for review in a town hall meeting. **Staying on budget and adjusting the plans accordingly to address member needs versus wants, remains priority.** Please look for updates coming your way soon, and reach out anytime if you have questions.

Here is another **"something new"** to look forward to: The **HRC Men's Association** and the HRC management team are working on what will most likely become a new annual tradition: A **"Ryder Cup"** type of combined golf and tennis tournament between **HRC and Westwood Golf Club (WGC).** This two-day event would include golf at WGC one day, then tennis at our Club the next day, with social activities and a traveling trophy for bragging rights. I sense that given the competitive nature of our tennis members, this will most certainly become a hit. Details will follow soon.

Did you know that our Club has **strong student partnerships** with the **Conrad N. Hilton College**

that attracts so many UH students?" I would say that the answer lies in the third paragraph of this page, and that **we are constantly adapting to the needs of a changing workforce - the Millennials.** This generation has an entirely new way of looking at life (and work). I know this for a fact since my 21-year-old son "educates" me on this almost daily, but kidding aside, these needs were again verified at a CMAA education seminar I recently attended. It also confirmed that **HRC is a great place to work, to gain experience and to use the Club as the launching pad for each graduate's individual career.** It also showed me that there is still work to be done. But, there always is - no problem!

Have you downloaded the HRC App? If so, please make sure you scrolled down on the home page and opened **"Manage Alerts"** to activate **push notifications for each area you are interested in.** For help with the app, please contact our Director of Communications, Alison Malone at amalone@houstonracquetclub.com.

A couple of important event reminders:

April 15th - Women's Association Style Show & Cocktail Party
April 23rd - Wilander on Wheels
May 29th - The 2016 Oil Barons Ball

In closing, **congratulations go to the following dedicated staff members.** They are celebrating milestone Club anniversaries:

25 years: Ana Gloria Hansen, Grill Server
20 years: Thomas Cook, Director of Tennis
Juana Gomez, Laundry Attendant
Javier Tapia, Grill Manager
10 years: Jean Northey, Executive Assistant
Vanessa Roman, Assistant Pro Shop Manager

Thank you for your many years of service to the Club, its members and to your fellow team mates. **We sincerely appreciate all you do!**

Looking forward to seeing everyone around the campus,

Thomas

IN MEMORIAM

Art Casper
Thomas Edwards
Jerry Finger
Roy Horlock
Kenneth Minter



TENNIS



1



2



3



4



5



6

SUNDAY FUNDAY

DISCO TENNIS MIXER

HRC couples enjoyed a psychedelic afternoon of fun tennis and good vibes before feasting on a funky chicken buffet after play. Thomas Cook and the gang awarded groovy prizes to members who donned their afros and bell bottoms in true 70's flair.

1. Disco Tennis Mixer participants and Certificate Winners. L-R Antonio & Alexia Benavides, Tiziana & Roberto Velasco, Kirk Oliver, Dana Comer, Filipe & Leigh Barbosa, Andrea & Trent Tellepsen, Richard & Sharon Snowden, Brian & Jessica Womac
2. Rand & Lauren Lionberger, Kevin & Lindsay Turner, Stephanie & Cody Carper
3. Leigh & Filipe Barbosa
4. Robby Clarkson & Thomas Cook
5. Kate Bialas & Tiziana Velasco

SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR

6 HRC member and long-time teaching pro Sue Bramlette was recently awarded the 2016 Les Grande Dames Sportswoman of the Year award. This award, presented at The Crawford Cup (Ft. Lauderdale) is chosen by a selection committee of national players. It recognizes sportsmanship, contribution to senior tennis, and tournament performance. Created in 1976 by Winter Park's Nancy Reed and Mary Ann Plante, Les Grande Dames is essentially a senior women's professional tour.

THOMAS COOK
Director of Tennis



Now it's time to enjoy the spring tennis weather before summer temperatures invade HRC.

The first week of April is exciting due to the return of the National Senior Women's Clay Court Championships. We have several HRC members competing. I would like to thank the HRC staff for their efforts during this busy week, the volunteer tournament committee, the Game, Set, Match donors, and a special thanks to all of the tournament underwriters and sponsors. This group effort is what makes this tournament #1 in the U.S. year after year!

As a parent, the first thing I think of after spring break is summer plans for the kids! Our HRC summer tennis camps begin on May 30th and occur weekly for 10 weeks. You can sign up your child who is 5 or older for any individual week. Camp runs from 9 AM – 1 PM and includes tennis, lunch, and swimming.

We have several upcoming special events:

- Tiaras, Tutus & Tennies – The New Member Mixer sponsored by the HRC Women's Association is on Wednesday, April 13th. All ladies are invited to play.
- Whites and Woods – Men and Women Mixed up Doubles is on Sunday, April 24th.
- World Oilman's Tennis Tournament – May 5, 6, 7. All of the courts will be busy.
- Ladies Member Guest – Sponsored by the HRC Women's Association is on Friday, May 13th.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who participated in the Aussie Open Mixer at the end of January. This was the first time that ALL of our 34 courts were taken by a tennis event. It was great fun!



JAMES LOW ENGAGEMENT

James Low, one of our new members and one of our finest players proposed to Kelley Sullivan on Court 25. The couple celebrated with champagne and the rest was history. Congratulations to James and Kelley!

TENNIS EVENTS

CARDIO TENNIS DRILL

CO-ED B Level & Above

Mondays & Thursdays 6:30-7:45PM

Saturdays 10-11:15am

B Level Ladies

Friday 9:00-10:15AM

Scheduling for Cardio Tennis is with Randy Druz (rjdruz@aol.com)

LIVE BALL TENNIS

Tuesdays 6:00-7:15PM* - B Level & Above

Wednesdays 9:00-10:15AM & 10:15-11:30AM

Wednesdays 6:30-7:45PM - Men's Championship/A

Wednesdays 10:30-11:45AM

Saturdays 10:00AM

Saturdays 1:00-2:30PM* - Co-ed B Level & Above

With Randy Druz (rjdruz@aol.com)

(*time subject to change)

Check out this link for Live Ball Tennis action and sign up with Randy today: <http://www.tennis.com/your-game/2013/12/live-ball-tennis-done-differently-and-better/50024/#.VVwhlfViko>

TENNIS 101 WITH ROBBY

Wednesdays 11:00-12:30PM

Beginners Only - learn the fundamentals through fun drills, games & strategy. The cost is \$25. Contact Robby in the Pro Shop.

TENNIS 201 WITH ROBBY

Fridays 10:30-12:00PM

Tennis 101 grads continue to work on fundamentals through fun drills, games & strategy. Contact Robby in the Pro Shop.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT

Wednesdays 6:45-8:00PM

Join Marlon for fundamental oriented drills for "B" level players and up. Beer is provided. \$17/person.

HATS OFF TO HOUSTON NSWCCC

Monday-Saturday, April 4-10

TIARAS, TUTUS & TENNIES LADIES NEW MEMBER MIXER

Wednesday, April 13

5:30PM

Hosted by the Women's Association

Round Robin • Door Prizes • Dinner

Members and guests are welcome. Sign up early in the Pro Shop. \$35/member and new members are complimentary. Annual Meeting: The officers for 2016-2017 will be announced. Childcare is available in the Kids Club by reservation. 24-hour cancellation policy applies.

WHITES AND WOODS

Sunday, April 24

1:30PM

Men and Women Mixed Up Doubles. Members will enjoy a friendly afternoon of tennis fun! RSVP to Alex Graham agraham@houstonracquetclub.com or sign up in the Pro Shop. \$15++per person.

WOMEN'S MEMBER GUEST TOURNAMENT

Friday, May 13

9:00AM

Hosted by the Women's Association

All levels are welcome with a luncheon to follow. Sign Up in the Pro Shop.

QUICKSTART TENNIS PROGRAM

May 13, 20, 27

5:30-7:00PM

\$100 per child. 3 Friday Sessions. Dinner provided at 5:30PM. Get your children involved in tennis! Led by Tennis Pro, Alex Graham look forward to fun games and drills as part of the introduction to this sport of a lifetime. Sign up in the Pro Shop (713) 464-3431 or email agraham@houstonracquetclub.com!

SUMMER TENNIS CAMP

May 31-August 19

9:00AM-1:00PM

Enrolling now for Ages 5-17. No camp the week of July 4-July 8. Cost per session: Members: \$275 per session and Non-members: \$375 per session (lunch included). Please contact Sicily McCambridge at smccambridge@houstonracquetclub.com for additional information on the Summer Camps. Sign Up in the Pro Shop or online on our website.



TIARAS, TUTUS & TENNIES

Ladies New Member Mixer • Wednesday, April 13 • 5:30PM

Hosted by the Women's Association

Round Robin • Door Prizes • Dinner • \$35/member and new members are complimentary. Sign up early in the Pro Shop.



WOMEN'S MEMBER GUEST TOURNAMENT

Friday, May 13 • 9:00AM

All levels are welcome with a luncheon to follow. Sign up in the Pro Shop.



TENNIS

"HATS OFF TO HOUSTON!"

During the first week of April, more than two hundred players will compete in the 46th annual NSWCCC. We would like to thank the members of HRC for their Texas hospitality! Thank you to the HRC staff for their competence and kindness. Thank you to the volunteer NSWCCC committee members who devote so much time all year making this the best senior women's tournament in the country!



Committee Members: Sue Bramlette, Kathy Zay, Cathy Lassetter, Julie Gillaspie, Ruth Mae Kohnke, Judy Job, Bootsie Le Feuvre and Dana Kurtin

A TEXAS-SIZED THANK YOU GOES OUT TO OUR NSWCCC SPONSORS:

2016 NSWCCC UNDERWRITERS

Gardere
Houston Racquet Club
Women's Association
PFS Group
Vinson and Elkins
Prosperity Bank
Styles Jewelers
Victoria Velarde/Anume
Foundation
Consortra
Polk Mechanical
Company
Trendmaker Homes

Houston Racquet Club
Men's Association
UT Health
USTA

2016 IN-KIND CONTRIBUTORS

Athletic Orthopedics and
Knee Center
Kristin Hess
Michael Russell/ArrowBar
Tennis Express
The Pewter Lady
Wilson

2016 TOURNAMENT SPONSORS

Jeff Allen, DDS
Roni & Doug Atnipp
Wanda & Chuck Beckner
Belmont Villages
Kappie & Read Boles
Tonja Brown
Dayna & Ted Erck
HRC Team "Overserved"
HRC Team "Perfectly
Matched"
Harriett Hulbert
Lubel Voyles LLP
Nick Nichols

USTA Texas Section
Katie Thompson
Emily & Danny Weingeist
Thank you as well to
the loyal members who
contribute individually.

2016 GAME, SET, MATCH CLUB ACE CLUB MEMBERS

Debra Baker
Margery Gray
Gundi McCandless
Priscilla & George Slocum

MATCH CLUB MEMBERS

Peg Austin
Kathy & Doug O'Brien
Wanda & Chuck Beckner
Paul Peacock
Satchmo Billings
Susanne & Thomas Preuml
Cary Dunham
The Kim and Don
Richards Foundation
Karen & John Edmonds
Barbara Sasser
Heidi Gerger
Fred Saunders
Janet & Tim Graham

Juanita Smith
Ann & Bill Heim
Meg & Michael Smith
Ashley & Russ Holmsten
Jennifer & David Toney
Judy & Chris Job
Dorothy Uthlaut
Margaret Kitchen
The Varady Family
Ruth Mae & Ernie Kohnke
Karen & Hunter White
Kelly & Steven Madden
Denise & Brad Williams
Bonnie & John McMillan
Kathy & Tom Zay
Susan & Mark Meyers

SET CLUB MEMBERS

Gayette Eicher
Stephanie & Jim Gilley
Mary Ann Gralka
Rhea & Ron Latta, Sr.
Bambi Schuette
Cindy & Bob Shealor

GAME CLUB MEMBERS

Anne Burgot
Jan Burroughs
Team Reeter
Adelaide Smith
Jessica Shively – in honor
of Kae Jenkins



WHITES & WOODS

Sunday, April 24 • 1:30PM

Men and Women Mixed Up Doubles. Members will enjoy a friendly afternoon of tennis fun!
RSVP to Alex Graham agraham@houstonracquetclub.com or sign up in the Pro Shop. \$15++per person.



QUICKSTART TENNIS PROGRAM

May 13, 20, 27 • 5:30-7:00PM

\$100 per child. 3 Friday Sessions.
Dinner provided at 5:30PM. See ad on page 7.

TENNIS



WINNERS

AUSSIE ADULT TOURNAMENT

1. The Aussie Open was a huge success with 136 participants. There was lots of good tennis with friends, old and new. All the courts were used and great prizes were awarded to the winners.

2. Female Winners: Bootsie Le Feuvre, Paula Toussaint, Martha Haverstick, Pat Sheets & Katherine Strange

3. Male Winners: John Jurasin, Greg Browne, Rob Collins, Darin Zanolovich, Jimmy Valle, Kenneth Verheek



AUSSIE JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

Junior players, with their parents and siblings watching, enjoyed a beautiful Saturday afternoon with temperatures in the low 70's, competing in the Aussie Junior Open. The kids were divided into two groups and played Round Robin matches.

4. **White City Group**
Winner- Katelyn Hodge
Runner-Up- Andrea Garza

5. **Kooyong Group**
Winner- Mona Darvishi
Runner-Up - Romit Kumargrami

CLUB SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

6. **Men's Championship**
2nd-Ben Wiener, 1st-Rafael Herrera

7. **Men's A**
1st-David Endelman, 2nd-Brad Dawson

8. **Men's B**
1st-Antonio Benavides, 2nd-David Cromack

9. **Men's C**
1st-Shea Hancock, 2nd-Chris Knop

10. **Women's Championship**
1st-Tammy Morris, 2nd-Correne Loeffler

11. **Women's A**
1st-Debra Baker, 2nd-Alexia Benavides (not pictured)

12. **Super Senior**
1st Andy Newton, 2nd Bob Landauer





CLUB SCENE

PAST PRESIDENTS DINNER 2016

1. Top to Bottom:

Ted Erck, Doug Dawson, Fred Saunders, Tim Purcell, Clark Reid
Paul Peacock, Leland Putterman, Danny Weingeist, George Uthlaut
Michael Monk, Pete Sterling, David Frantz, Nick Nichols
Steven Madden, Brad Patt, Bob Landauer, Bert Tabor
Clyde Buck, Meg Smith, Roni Atnipp and Bill Kottwitz

MEN'S POKER TOURNAMENT

2. Congratulations to Ryan Rall for winning round 1 of the 2016 HRC Poker Series! Shea "Herbie" Hancock was the runner up, and Matty "Ice" Nordstrom, took 3rd place. Lead by Lee "Numero Uno" Jackson, be sure to look for information regarding round 2 of the 2016 poker series in the coming months!

WINTER BASH

3 & 4. Who says it doesn't snow in Texas? Well on January 24th, HRC made it happen! The kids enjoyed the gigantic snow slide, the snow pit and the snowflake machine, and when they wanted to take a break from the cold, they warmed themselves up with S'mores and Hot Chocolate! Families can't wait for the snow to come again next year.... HRC always keepin' it cool!

RACONTEUR SPOTTINGS

5. These HRC members took a break from an amazing dove hunting trip in Argentina to have their picture taken with the Raconteur.
Chuck Beckner, Cary Dunham, Joel Phipps, Paul Peacock, Bob Stagg. Thanks for sharing!

6. HRC Pro Shop Buyer Leslie Vindblah and HRC Pro Shop Manager Brenda Pineda just returned from a trade show in Las Vegas. What happened there, stayed there except for this picture taken with the Raconteur!

7. HRC Members Katie and Matt Bain and Natasha and Graydon Oliver had a great time in Cabo recently – thanks for taking time to have your picture taken with the Raconteur.

Take a copy of the Raconteur on your next vacation, have yourself photographed with it, and email the photo to jnorthey@houstonracquetclub.com.



SOCIAL EVENTS

HOMEWORK HELP

Mondays-Thursdays Weekly

3:30-5:30PM

Youth Area

Please don't forget that the Youth Activities Team will assist the youth members with their daily homework. \$5.00 per session. RSVP to Sicily McCambridge smccambridge@houstonracquetclub.com.

KIDS' MOVIE NIGHTS

Fridays, April 15 & May 20

6:30PM

Racquetball Court

Complimentary popcorn & lemonade will be served and a children's buffet will be available for purchase. Reservations 713.464.4811.

SOME LIKE IT HAUTE

MEN'S & WOMEN'S FASHION SHOW

Friday, April 15

6:30PM

Ballroom

Hosted by the Women's Association

For more information, see ad on page 3.

CRAWFISH FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 17

1:00-3:30PM

Pavilion

Bring the family for crawfish and drink specials! Music provided by Zydeco Dots. HPD Mounted Patrol will be bringing two of their horses. Adults \$29++ Children 6-12 \$15++ and Children under 5 are complimentary.



CRAWFISH FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 17 • 1:00-3:30PM • Pavilion

Bring the family for crawfish and drink specials!

Music provided by Zydeco Dots. HPD Mounted Patrol will be bringing two of their horses. Adults \$29++ Children 6-12 \$15++ and Children under 5 are complimentary.

WILD GAME DINNER

Friday, April 22

Pavilion

7:00PM

Hosted by the Men's Association

This event is open to adult male HRC Members only. Exotic Meats, Cigars, Double Barrel Bourbon, Single Malt Scotch & Fine Wines. \$65++ per person. RSVP 713.464.4811.

3RD ANNUAL OIL BARONS BALL

Friday, April 29

6:30PM

Ballroom

Sponsored by the 2016 Oil Baron

Alexander Houston of Emirates

Cocktails, dinner & silent auction. The cost is \$150 per person and includes a delicious buffet plus an open bar for the evening. Entertainment by Empire 6. Tickets & sponsorships can be purchased at www.papercitymag.blacktie-houston.com and enter code "OBB2016" or call 713.464.4811.

HRC UNCORK'D WINE FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 24

3:00-5:00PM

Pavilion

Complimentary for Uncork'd Members and \$30 for guests. RSVP 713.464.4811.

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, May 8

11:00AM-2:00PM

\$49++ ages 12-Adult, \$42++ Seniors 65 and over, \$1.50 (per year) ages 11 and under. Join us for carving stations, brunch dishes, fresh spring produce, and a show stopping array of homemade sweets! Live Entertainment. RSVP required 713.464.4811.

UNCORK'D WINE DINNER

Thursday, May 12

6:30PM

TDR

"South of the Border." RSVP 713.464.4811.

OIL & GAS SOCIETY SPEAKER SERIES

Thursday, May 19

6:00PM

TDR

"Oil Market Watch -- is the end near?" Presented by UBS Financial Services Inc. & Callender Financial Group. Join us for an encore performance by Nicki Decker, UBS Energy Equity Strategist, as she returns one year later to discuss her perspective on oil prices. \$15/person.

SENIOR BUS TRIP

SUSTAINABLE HARVEST IN HOCKLEY

Wednesday, May 25

9:00AM-3:00PM

Learn about Organic gardening and lunch at Houston Oaks Country Club.



WILD GAME DINNER

Friday, April 22 • Pavilion • 7:00PM

Hosted by the Men's Association

HRC Members only • \$65++ per person
Exotic Meats, Cigars, Double Barrel Bourbon, Single Malt Scotch & Fine Wines. RSVP 713.464.4811



CLUB SCENE

NEW MEMBER SPONSOR PARTY

When the Sun Goes Down... Everything Gets Hotter! A lovely setting, great company and Houston Racquet Club's prettiest view of the pools – what better place could there be, than the outdoor Pavilion for the New Member Sponsor Party? New Members and their sponsors enjoyed an evening of cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with music provided by Martin Griffin. Todd Riedel and his wife Marla won the Grand Prize - a trip to Amelia Island.

1. Thomas Cook, Marla & Todd Riedel, Cathy Lassetter
2. Thomas Cook, Jo Dickson
3. Paul Peacock, Thomas Preuml, Aaron Scheffler
4. Pavilion (draped)



LELAND PUTTERMAN
HRC Past President
& Renovation
Committee Chair



As you know, the primary emphasis on our renovation will be dining. We're looking to have a family dining area, a larger bar and an adult dining area. We're also dramatically increasing the size of the downstairs kitchen in order to better service our members. We have had several meetings with Gensler to start to create a design that will work for HRC and that we can afford. We're are hoping to start the construction in the July/ August timeframe and the current estimates are that it will take about a year to complete. It's very exciting to see what's possible with this renovation. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or someone on the renovation committee.

Renovation Committee:

Julia Blailock
Cary Dunham
Erik Heyne
Jim Holcolmb
Cathy Lassetter
John Leggett
Michael Monk
Brad Patt
Joel Phipps
Mindy Rice
Brad White
Karen White
Lee Zieben



SONDRA MAXFIELD
Senior Activities
Coordinator

Date Night on the Mississippi

Nothing beats date night at the Houston Racquet Club. 22 seniors enjoyed a scrumptious meal by Chef Bo that combined fried chicken and barbecue and bowls of delicious greens and other southern specialties as we paid tribute to Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn at our pre-theater treat. After dinner we hopped on the most glamorous bus and were whisked off to The Queensbury Theater for a production of "Big River" the Broadway winning musical of Tom and Huck and life along the Mississippi. Thank you Chef for such a delicious meal – we could have stayed and eaten all night but the theatre was waiting. Toby Mattox delighted us with a preview of the play we were going to see and it was a fun evening for all. The brand new Queensbury Theater is gorgeous and much needed in our Memorial neighborhood.

Grilling with Chef – The Sequel

St. Patrick's Day found a batch of our favorite seniors (22 to be exact) learning how to grill lamb and other delicacies in the Pavilion. This was our second in a series of how to grill meat and it was greatly enjoyed by all. We devoured our finished product. Chef always "does us proud" with his lessons. This series was the brain child of some of our senior women who wanted their husbands to "improve" on their grilling skills and apparently it is working. What a great way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.



Sondra Maxfield



HRC GROUP UPDATES

HRC UNCORK'D

By Leah Leggett

HRC Uncork'd started 2016 off right...drinking fantastic wine. In January we had a fabulous wine dinner, tasting the beautiful wines from Ehlers Estates in Napa Valley. February brought some education our way with our very own Isaac Valdez in the first of our Sommelier Series, Pinot Noir - Old World vs New World. We continued on our journey with a wine dinner featuring Domaines Schlumberger and Thomas Schlumberger, the winery owner, introduced us to his wines from Alsace. Once again, Chef outdid himself with a perfectly paired dining experience! Rodeo came to town in March and so Uncork'd couldn't miss the chance to taste several of the Rodeo's gold medal winners. March came to an end with another addition of our Sommelier Series with Guy Stout as we dove into the wines from Burgundy!

Uncork'd has a great Spring and Summer planned with the always enjoyable April Wine Festival, Chef takes us South of the Border in May as we explore the wines from the Southern Hemisphere, in June we will explore Spanish wines and July brings us Breakfast at Wimbledon and we will celebrate America with our Red, White and Brew celebration, a little something for our wine and beer aficionados!



3RD ANNUAL OIL BARONS BALL

By Tracey Moss

Attend the 3rd Annual HRC Oil Barons Ball presented by the HRC Oil & Gas Society on Friday, April 29th. This is a Club-wide black tie event. Be prepared to dance the night away and bid on amazing silent auction items. A portion of proceeds will benefit Casa de Esperanza, a local children's orphanage in Houston, TX.

This elegant affair is \$150 per person and includes Emirates First Class treatment with a red carpet entrance and greeting by the elegant Emirates flight attendants, professional red carpet photo and VIP cocktail reception, open bar, an impressive menu designed by Chef Bernard, and a live performance by the fabulous Empire 6 (www.empire6band.com).

Thank you 2016 sponsors:

Oil Baron - Emirates
Wildcatter - Callender Financial Group
Wildcatter - Finnegan
Wildcatter - Franklin Valve, LP
Wildcatter - SHALE Oil & Gas Magazine
Wildcatter - Innovative Search Partners

Drilling Manager - Geotrace Technologies
Drilling Manager - White Marlin Oil & Gas
Drilling Manager - Texas Ventures
Spindletop - JEB & Co
Tool Pusher - Revenew
In-kind Sponsor - Renegade
In-kind Sponsor - Weatherford

Email hrcogs@houstonracquetclub.com to RSVP or visit www.HoustonOilBarons.com (Event code: OBB2016).

Recap: Key Energy CEO Delivers Powerful Message in Series

Richard Alario delivered an engaging and powerful speech last February in our most recent Speaker Series. In his presentation "Surviving This Downturn: A View from the 'Patch'" one attendee said it best, "He did a great job telling an ugly story in an engaging and informative way."



3RD ANNUAL OIL BARONS BALL



Sponsored by the 2016 Oil Baron
Alexander Houston of Emirates



Friday, April 29 • 6:30PM • Ballroom
Cocktails • Dinner • Silent Auction
\$150 per person includes a delicious buffet plus open bar.
Entertainment by Empire 6.
Tickets & sponsorships can be purchased at
www.papercitymag.blacktie-houston.com and enter code "OBB2016"
or call 713.464.4811.



SWIM TEAM



JACKIE BUSA
Aquatics Program
Coordinator

MANTA MAINTENANCE

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
March 21-May 13
4:30-5:30PM

5-14 Years Old. Must be able to swim the length of the lap pool unassisted.
\$15/ per practice per swimmer.
The registration form is at the fitness desk or print one from the HRC website.
Questions: Jackie Busa
at jbusa@houstonracquetclub.com.

HRC SUMMER LEAGUE MANTA RAYS SWIM TEAM

Swim Party: Sunday, May 15th, 5:00-7:00PM- Registration, swim suits, t-shirts, swim caps, pool games, goggles and buffet dinner available for purchase.

Practices: May 16th - end of June, M-F 4:30-5:30 OR 5:30-6:30 on days without meets.

Summer Meet Schedule:

(Meets are 4:15PM warm ups, 5:00PM start, and usually last until 7:00 PM)

6/7	River Oaks CC @ HRC
6/8	TEAM PHOTO
6/9	HRC @ Houstonian
6/14	HRC @ Lakeside CC
6/16	Forest Club @ HRC
6/21	Briar Club @ HRC
6/23	HRC @ Houston Country Club
6/25	Country Club Swimming Invitational Championship (by Invite only)
6/28	Swim Team Banquet

BLAKE STOVALL
Director of
Fitness & Pools



Summer is quickly approaching with school ending, summer camps beginning, pools becoming busy, and all sorts of other activities. I'm an advocate of keeping our kids active and getting them involved in fitness activities safely and effectively. So, I want to remind our members of the Fitness Center policies on youth participation. Children under 12 are not permitted in the Fitness Center or allowed to participate in Group Exercise classes unless the class is specific to children under 12. Children between the ages of 12 and 15 must be supervised by a parent or adult guardian, must have completed the Youth Fitness Certification administered by Club fitness staff, and be approved by me before they can workout in the Fitness Center or participate in Group Exercise classes. Children 15 and older, may use the Fitness Center or participate in Group Exercise Classes without a parent or adult guardian present. If you have any children that are between the ages of 12 and 15 who would like to use our Fitness Center, please take advantage of the complimentary youth certification that is performed by one of our certified fitness staff. The certification takes about 45 minutes and is by appointment only. Please call the Fitness Front Desk to schedule your appointment or feel free to email me at bstovall@houstonracquetclub.com or call me at 713-464-4811 ext. 142, and I will set the appointment up with one of our fitness professional staff. Or, if you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to call or email me.

Also, I want to share some positive news on the Fitness Center's issue of controlling the clay being tracked in which has previously caused fitness equipment issues. We have tried many different ways to assist in keeping the Fitness Center clay free, but it has been a tremendous challenge to find one that worked effectively. I have good news though! We recently purchased a Treadblaster that is located on the south entrance of the Fitness Center. The Treadblaster utilizes highly concentrated nozzles to shoot crossing jets of water into the soles of your shoes. The water jets blast the debris out of the treads of your shoes. The Treadblaster typically uses one quart of water per cleaning and has side towers to prevent significant over-spray, keeping your shoes, legs and clothing dry. Simply slide your foot back and forth over the rollers and push the button on the handle and it does the rest. It has worked effectively and we have received nothing but good feedback. So, please give it a try to help minimize the clay in the Fitness Center.

Blake



ALISON MALONE
Director of
Communications

HRC APP

IT'S AS EASY AS 'TAP, TAP, TAP'

We are happy to announce the new Houston Racquet Club App. Member services are now available via your smart phone.

This informative new App offers a variety of features, has interactive functionality, and it is easy to use. You may view Club events, inquire about catering events, view our reciprocal club list, and access member documents such as the bylaws and Club rules. You also have the ability to select Push Notifications and only receive messages about your specific areas of interest. (Once logged in to the App, visit "Manage Notifications" and select every category of interest). Staying connected to your Club has never been easier.

To install the App:

Depending whether you have an iPhone or Android Phone, please visit either the Apple App Store or the Play Store. Search "Houston Racquet Club" and download the App. Open the App and click "Member" Login information (case sensitive):
username member@hrc.com
password member

Please give it a try and kindly provide us with feedback. If you have any questions about installing, using or navigating our app, please contact me at amalone@houstonracquetclub.com.



CAMP F.U.E.L.



SICILY MCCAMBRIDGE
Youth Activities Coordinator

"FILLING UP ENERGETIC LIVES"

Big things are happening here at the Houston Racquet Club! Our Youth Camps, Tennis and Aquatic Departments are coming together more than ever, in order to enhance the family atmosphere already present at the Club.

Our mission and values coincide with our programming intended for the youngest members of the Club, the children, who we value to be pivotal to the growth and success of the community. Our mission is to encourage and develop new skills and interests, while effectively increasing the youth's overall health through fitness. We like to provide you with summer opportunities to engage your children at the Club, as we assist in developing the exceptional leaders of our future.

2016 Summer Camp F.U.E.L. Dates:

Session 1: Mon. June 6 – Fri. June 10
Session 2: Mon. June 13 – Fri. June 17
Session 3: Mon. June 20 – Fri. June 24
Session 4: Mon. June 27 – July 1
No camp the week of July 4th
Session 5: Mon. July 11 – Fri. July 15
Session 6: Mon. July 18 – Fri. July 22
Session 7: Mon. July 25 – Fri. July 29
Session 8: Mon. Aug. 1 – Fri. Aug. 5
Session 9: Mon. Aug. 8 – Fri. Aug. 12
Session 10: Mon. Aug. 15 – Fri. Aug. 19

Cost per session: \$240 the first child, \$210 each additional child

Time: 9:30AM-3:00PM (Lunch Included)

Members Only

Please contact Sicily McCambridge at smccambridge@houstonracquetclub.com for additional information on the Summer Camps.



VALENTINE SPIN

Love was in the air on Valentine's Day in the Fitness Center. Rose petals, sweet music and much love was abound! Thanks Julie for leading a great workout too.

Left to Right: Kollen West, Ron Killion, Michelle Killion, John Beerbower, Lisa Schrader, Michele Beerbower, Kelli Little, Julie Veiseh, Julianna Moorad, Amy Walsh, Scott Moorad, Stacie Dunn and Brad Little



MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Sunday, May 8 • 11:00AM-2:00PM
\$49++ ages 12-Adult, \$42++ Seniors 65 and over,
\$1.50 (per year) ages 11 and under.

Join us for carving stations, brunch dishes, fresh spring produce, and a show stopping array of homemade sweets!
Live Entertainment. RSVP required 713.464.4811.
Dress Code for Mother's Day is Business Casual.



HOUSTON RACQUET CLUB

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Houston, TX 77024
713.464.4811
houstonracquetclub.com

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MEMORIAL DAY BBQ & FAMILY CARNIVAL

MONDAY, MAY 30

Music provided by Wayne Johnson
BBQ – Pavilion \$20++ adults, children under 12 - \$9.95++
Pools Open

Family Carnival includes: rides, games and family fun
Dunk Tank, Cake Walk, Games, Inflatable Water Slide
Children ages 6 and up \$15.00++ (20 tickets)
Children ages 5 and under \$5.00++ (10 tickets)
Tickets redeem for rides, games and carnival food/snacks
Extra Tickets are \$1.00 each - sold in books of 10.