

## **The DRC Gazette – July, 2010 edition** **by gossip editor Nils "wolfman" Mikkelsen**

Howdy folks, since my last edition there have been a few happenings or some in progress.

First of all, we regret the departure in mid August of current VP, Randy Gaulding, who is moving to McAllen. Randy has been a great VP and has generously lent his home for all the board meetings to date. Thank you Randy and buena suerte Randy; let us know what gang you join and what your colors and tattoos are. But not to leave our leader, Suzanne "007" Payne alone at the helm, Tim Smeltzer and Annette Sudhof have stepped up to the plate as VP and Asst. VP. But I would be remiss if I didn't recognize the behind the scenes work of your other board members: Debbie Russell in socials, who is not only good at what she does, but a great cook too; Jim Gunn, who guards our dues and other monies so tightly, we are only second to Bill Gates in liquidity; Ross James, who organizes the tournaments, a difficult task indeed, not to mention his photographic abilities. Yet, he is always willing to lend a hand to anyone that needs it. Andy speck, our most important board member, the beer guy – yeah Andy! Francy for letting us use her house for a meetings and always has some useful idea to benefit the club; Vicki, our secretary, whose duties go far beyond taking notes at board meetings; Steve, our ex-officio, who has hosted a party and lent his expertise in planning and administration; Anne Marceau, our membership director for her assistance in planning events and record keeping and John Myers/Charles Cox, who contributed to the social activities of the club; and our potentially Pulitzer prize winning editor, part time photographer and director-gopher, Nils (that's me.) But last but not not least, I also must not forget such stalwarts as Tom Wagner, Dianne Davis, Charles Campbell, Don Watson, Lanelle "pegleg" Lively to mention a few, who have always helped out the board whether lending their homes or contributing in other ways, though not on the board.

So what else is knew? John Myers has future plans. John is in a romantic mode and it appears he will tie the knot in October despite my best efforts to deter him from this madness. Regrettably, another good friend and board member of DRC, Andy Speck, has also fallen victim to this virus and has now officially tied the knot, effective July 30. We wish them both the best, but secretly hope they will be out on parole soon.

Summer is now upon us with vengeance with temperatures topping 100, as is customary here in North Texas. With the heat came The French Open and Wimbledon with a few surprise upsets, ie. Italian Francesca Schiavone winning the French days before her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. Rumor has it that that Anne Marceau, now free of her little kindergarten pests until next fall, embarked on a bike trip through England; fortunately the transatlantic part was by air. Once there she enjoyed strawberries and cream at Wimbledon, with a few other local friends, including Jane and Robby. Rumors are she partied very hard; but what happens in England, stays in England, at least until your roving reporter gets the steamy details – I have an inquiring mind, and I want to know. So fess up, Ms. Marceau.

Charles Cox and Suzanne "007" Payne, helped Ms. Anne prepare for her journey by riding around White Rock Lake with her, as well as Paul Britton, who has temporarily run out of women to woo. Tim, the great white shark, has been seen lurking around appetizing defenseless females. Andy Speck and yours truly went to Waco to compete in a tournament there in 95 F heat, only to lose a close match. C'est la vie, I guess. Earlier, Chucky Cox and I had lost a match at Brookhaven as well – only it wasn't close (we played 4.0 – the other guys were, we weren't). Speaking of Chucky, he and his lovely lady companion, Maria, spent some time roaming around France and Spain this summer, where they had the opportunity to mingle with the local folks; Chuck who was fixing a flat tire near Barcelona was pleasantly surprised at the nice folks who came to help, until Maria explained to him that they were about to be relieved of their possessions. Chuck was nevertheless grateful that he was allowed to keep his underwear and socks.

Also during the month of June, the annual wheelchair tournament was held at Oak Creek, in which our friend Carl Cogdill was also part organizer. It was nice to see several DRC/PSRC members there lending a hand, including "cuz" Steve Jensen, Paul Britton and Sue Toney, also Ted Brotherton and Eva Hines of PSRC and others I may not remember.

But wait, there's more! Much fun was shared with our sister club, PSRC, at a well attended bowling event in Richardson. The event was a resounding social success (though not a bowling one) and was organized by Kerry Hall and DRC's own Debbie Russell, with plenty of pizza, coke (the bottled kind) and other bar refreshments for those allergic to water and soda. We look forward to more combined events with PSRC, but maybe it should be something we're good at.

Our June tournament had a Hawaiian theme and was held at my cousin, twelve times removed, Steve's clubhouse, who was ably assisted by the lovely Roxanne, with excellent food by none other than Debbie Russell. Lady tournament winners were Pat Bowring and Claudia Helget; and, on the men's side it was Tom Wagner, who won by one lousy point, and Nils Mikkelsen (that's me, folks :-)) a very close second! The costume winners were the lovely Annette Sudhof, wearing a frondy contemporary palm tree, and Craig Niebes in a very fashionable moo-moo.

Time for tennis trivia:

Contrary to what some folks believe, what we recognize as tennis today actually comes from France, back in the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century. Back then it was known as "jeu de paume" or, essentially, handball; the ball was made of leather, stuffed with dog hair; hence, there were not too many stray dogs. King Louis X actually died while playing it. Around one hundred years later, King Henry VIII made it popular in England when he had a court built at Hampton Court Palace. I suspect King Henry had no shortage of hair for his balls. Lawn tennis eventually found its way to the USA in 1874.

But that's all for now folks until September, Krishna and Medicare willing.

