



Summer 2010 was a great season!

Looking back over our season, we find an impressive list of tennis events and activities. Our first Tennis Week in May brought us a Quick Start Training, a Return to Tennis Clinic, two days of Kids Free Tennis and our annual Block Party. Coach Cathy Thomas conducted outreach clinics to JP Jones Community Center and the Boys and Girls Club.

Our four Camps and two Sessions had mostly full classes and were taught by our talented Coaches Cathy Thomas, Carol Smith, Brian Smith, Milo Griffin, Chris Poole, Caitlyn Deutsch and Philip Martinez. Mitch Roth took on the awesome task of organizing our two tournaments. Courtside staff Director Marie Schmidt and Office Assistant Cindy Simpson took care of the myriad of administrative details.



We were honored to have Borough Mayor Luke Hopkins join our Rally Day on July 23.

In general, registration numbers are a bit higher than last year, with Grades K-2 having the largest increase. A dedicated group of adults, preparing for a tournament in Portland, have filled our adult classes. Twenty young players took advantage of our scholarship program, thanks to the support of our primary sponsor Fairbanks Youth Sports!



Our USTA Junior Team Tennis players with Coach Cathy!

Coach Cathy successfully organized our **new Junior Team Tennis program: FTA 2010**. U18 players faced off twice a week challenging each other to great matches! We hope to continue this program next summer when the players will be eligible to play in the National Tournament in the Fall. We fielded four teams this summer:

U18 Thomas 1 - Teresa Sample, Thomas Lees, Teryl John Lemay, Zachary Vehmeier, and Jacob Alton Hebard

U18 Thomas 2 - Jaguar Kristeller, Thomas Jacob Roselius, Jessa Lauren Boertje, Jessie Jean Smith, Rachel Briann Jordan, Jeremy Troy Weaver

U18 Thomas 3 - Jared Lees, James Kardash, Catherine A. Sample, Dana Rae Lemay, Samuel Gabe Greenberg, Harrison Owen

U18 Thomas 4 - Daniel Aven Bross, Jacob Micheal Butler, Wyatt Owen, Kelly Quist, Alex James Jordan

Find out more about USTA Junior Team Tennis at
<http://jrteamtennis.usta.com/>

Thank you from FTA!!



Kudos to those individual volunteers (you know who you are) who "stepped up to the baseline" in preparing the courts for FTA's tennis programs. Washing the courts, mending nets, hanging banners, repairing and replacing squeegee rollers are tasks not often seen but necessary. You are appreciated! Thank you so much.

Thank you to all those who also helped with Kids Free Tennis! The programs couldn't run without your gifts of time and patience with new players both on and off the court: **Caitlyn Deutsch, Joe Deutsch, Deb Fitzgerald, Lou Gross, Rich Kedrowski, Jameson Lang, Mary Mathews, Philip Martinez, Mary Nebert, Dave Partee, Chris Poole, Janice Poole, Karen Quist, Joshua Rathburn, Gwen Ramras, Mitchel Roth, RoseAnne Sample, Joe Sullivan, Lindsey Thorton, Bobby Trujillo, Carol Woodard, and Rubie York.**

Thank you to all the great volunteers who made the Tennis Block Party at successful kick-off to the Summer season: **Ken Vehmeier** - Music, THE DJ extraordinaire; **Terry Norman and Bobby Trujillo** - Grill Masters; **Lee Hazen** - BBQ cooker transporter; **Howard Thies** - Lent us his BBQ cooker; **Oscar Calvillo** - Provided coolers and ice; **Chris Poole** - Set up and Break down and helped with the little kids; **Bill Lanning** - Rapid Rally Coordinator; **Deb Fitzgerald** - Assisted with rapid rally; **Carol Woodard** - Ran tennis drills for kids; **Brian Smith** - Wooden Racquet event and helped with the kids; **Dave Partee** - Juggling entertainment; **Marie Schmidt and Mary Matthews** - Outside court coordinators; **Adam Jasick** - On court drill master who also helped set up and break down; **Joette Vonche** - Stayed late and helped clean up; and last, but not least, our faithful Emeritus Board Member and Tennis Block Party Coordinator **Joe Sullivan!**

Thank you, too, to all the Rally Day volunteers! These culminating days for our summer sessions are always fun for our young players including awards and pizza lunch: **Fairbanks Fire Department, Robin Barker, Joe Deutsch, Astrid Larson, Mary Mathews, Gwen Ramras, and RoseAnne Sample.**

Thank you to our Community Partners!



Thank you to our Corporate Donors and Sponsors!



The Coaches' Page



From Coach Cathy -

Once again I am happy to say I truly enjoy myself in Fairbanks, AK! I love teaching tennis to any one who wants to learn.

I truly missed not being here for the B.B.Q and Kids FreeTennis programs this year. I hope to come back next year earlier in the season! The Visiting Pro Adam Jasick comes from my home town in California and told me he had a wonderful time and really enjoyed Fairbanks and the people.

My tennis classes have gone very well, the kids and adults are having a good time. 😊

I was asked to start a new program called Junior Team Tennis, and I am happy to say it is off and running and the kids love it. We had 28 kids sign up so I put four teams together! Junior Team Tennis is very popular in Southern California, and next year the winning team from Fairbanks will be able to compete in the National Playoffs where ever they will be held.

FTA, you guys are awesome and do a wonderful job! Thank you and keep up the good work.

Tennis Players Keep your eye on The ball, have fun, and always Thank FTA for the great tennis Programs here in Fairbanks!



Coach Cathy 😊



Coach Cathy Thomas conducted outreach clinics at the JP Jones Community Center (pictured here) and the Boys and Girls Club



Adam Jasick from Indian Wells Tennis Gardens joined our coaching staff as the Visiting Pro for two weeks & inspired us with his energy and ideas.

With his encouragement and the support from Coach Cathy Thomas and parent volunteers Lee Lemay and Patti Boertje, a middle school and high school group of young players is in training to participate as Ball Kids in March 2011 at the BNP Paribas Tournament in California, the fifth largest tennis tournament in the world. This will be a great experience for our young players to experience professional, international tennis first hand.

See <http://www.bnpparibasopen.com/About/Ball-Kids.aspx> for more information about the tournament and the Ball Kids program!



High School Tennis News 2010

All high school students - Come out for your high school tennis team!

*Tennis is an out-sourced high school sport in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District.
(If you are home-schooled student interested in playing, please contact Gwen Ramras-388-8334.)*

FTA has a No-Cut policy. All ability levels are welcome.

HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS IS ROCKING! The first practice, Monday, Aug. 2nd, students filled the tennis courts. Balls were flying and the activity was tremendous. Many students returned from last year and will likely lead their teams, some as captains. Others may be brand new to tennis and will learn the "sport for a lifetime."

Our coaches are terrific. Whether it is a brand-new student that needs in-depth instruction or just some beginning-of-the-season reminders, the coaches are on top of it. In addition to the getting the kids on the court, there are details such as forms to be completed and distributed, uniforms & sweatshirts to be ordered and confirmation of academics with the Activities Directors (A.D.) at each high school.

Each coach works closely with their A.D. and life is a bit challenging for out-sourced sports, such as tennis. We'd like to thank each and every one of these Activity Directors (A.D.). Also, we will have the benefit of Coach Cathy to assist the new coaches, especially with the students new to tennis, for a few weeks in August.

- ✚ At Ben Eielson, we welcome the Raven's new coach, Jacob Tacket. Jacob is military and is based on Eielson and new to coaching. His attitude is terrific and he is waiting for some of his returning players who are out-of-state. Come join the team!
- ✚ At Hutchison, veteran Coach Carol Woodard, assisted by Joe Sullivan has her core returning players and some new faces also. There is room for more.
- ✚ At Lathrop, veteran Coach Milo Griffin leads the Malemutes and is assisted by Gayle Hazen & JV coaches, Nancy Uptgraft and Patti Boerjte; a dedicated team. Even though Gayle's daughter Meredith graduated, Gayle is still lending her experience to Lathrop.
- ✚ At Monroe, veteran Coach Bobby Trujillo leads the Rams. Currently, we have an all-male team. That's a problem for a co-ed sport. Help us find some ladies for Monroe!
- ✚ At North Pole, we welcome Patriot's Coach Peter Baksis, assisted by former player Ryan Smith. Peter is a Spanish teacher at North Pole, and we are happy to have a coach from within the school.
- ✚ At West Valley, veteran Coach Debbie Miller, and New JV Coach Mark Hoffman lead the Wolfpack. Mark is a teacher at Chinook and we welcome him to high school tennis.

We would like to introduce our officials. They are great: Bonnie Owen, Rich Kedrowski, Mitch Roth, and newbie, Rod Boerjte. These officials fulfill an important aspect to our matches. If anyone is interested in becoming an official, please contact Gwen: gwen@gci.net

You may notice a new face around the courts in September. Maria Schmidt will be joining Andrea & I and training as a Coordinator. Maria was FTA's part-time Director this summer and we welcome her expanded role in FTA.

The season matches will begin on Tuesday, Aug. 24. The 5pm match will be at North Pole High School, Monroe vs. North Pole. The 6pm match is at The Alaska Club outdoor courts, Eielson vs. Hutchison. New this year, Kodiak will be joining Juneau for a multi-school scrimmage on Aug 27 & Aug 28. For the complete schedule please see FTA's website:

<http://www.fairbankstennis.org/2010/2010HighSchoolSched.htm>

Come and join the fun! Co-Coordinators: Andrea Deutsch 347-4538 & Gwen Ramras 388-8334

SAVE THE DATE!



**Fairbanks Tennis Association's
3rd Annual
"FUN-Raiser"**



*September 11, 2010
Pikes Waterfront Lodge – Binkley Room
An Adult Evening*

This FUN-Raiser event will include:

- Texas Hold'em Trophy Tournament and Learn-to-Play Tables
- Ping Pong Tournament
- Bingo Tournament
- Silent Auction
- Heavy Hors d'oeuvres
- No-Host Bar
- Door prizes



Grand Door Prize - \$1000.00 Cash

Plan to attend and support the many programs FTA makes available to our community – Kids Free Tennis Clinic, Summer Programs for children and adults, Elementary After-School Tennis, High School and Middle School Tennis. Help support the FTA scholarships for children.

The doors will open at 5:00 p.m.
Tickets \$50.00 per person
Call 388-9512 today to reserve your ticket.

Door Prizes-Ticket holder must be present to win!

**Fairbanks Tennis Association Annual FUN-raiser
CONTRIBUTION FORM**



Date _____

Donor Name _____

Phone _____

Mailing Address _____

Contribution Information

Description of Item including value:

I would like to purchase tickets.

_____ tickets at \$50.00 per ticket

_____ 10 tickets for \$450.00

Donor Signature _____

A COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION – MEMBER USTA

Annual Sam Woodke Junior Tennis Championships

The Fairbanks Tennis Association Board of Directors voted unanimously to name our summer USTA-Sanctioned Junior Tournament in honor of **Sam Woodke**. We made this decision in appreciation for the many years of support from Sam through Fairbanks Youth Sports. Our Kids Free Tennis clinics and tennis for all youth in Fairbanks have flourished thanks to his contributions benefiting youth sports.

Held this year July 24-25, 2010, the tournament hosted great young players from Fairbanks and Anchorage. Local Fairbanks players dominated. Jared Lees and Eric Ringstad both were 4-0 in round-robin play and neither lost a set on the way to titles in the Boys 14 and Boys 18 singles, respectively. Runner-up honors were closely contested in both age groups with Jordon Friend edging Phillip Martinez 6-1, 7-6(3) in a second set tie-break to finish 3-1 and claim 2nd. In the Boys 14 division, James Kardash defeated

Teryl Lemay 6-1, 6-4 to take 2nd place with a 3-1 overall record. We hope to see more young players next year!

Thank you, Sam for your important support.



**Sam Woodke and Dan Ramras –
Key supporters of Tennis for Alaska's Kids!**

**HELP
WANTED**

Help the Fun-raiser in September!

We are looking for people to help us prepare for a successful Fun-Raiser. We would like your help in the following areas - set up the day of the event, help at the event, procure auction items/door prizes, pick up auction items/door prizes, and/or sell tickets. Join the fun!

Contact Ashley at 456-6452 or akmunro@alaska.edu for more information

Help year-round as a FTA Board Member!

Bring your energy and ideas, you can make a difference! If you are interested in helping tennis to continue to be successful in our area in this area, we need you! We are particularly in need of a new Treasurer! New Board Members will be elected at the Annual Meeting in October. We are taking applications now from enthusiastic and committed people interested in making an important contribution to our community. You as a member and reader of this newsletter are already aware of the many programs FTA offers. We can continue this impressive array of service, with your help. You can chose to work in your strength area, from publicity to fundraising to school age tennis to building partnerships. Don't miss this opportunity to join our dynamic board and use your talents to grow community tennis in Fairbanks.

Call 378-1021 for more information!



2010 Arthur Ashe Essay Contest: Two Section Winners from FTA

FTA is proud to announce that two of our NJTL players were selected as contest winners in the annual Arthur Ashe Essay and Art Contest.

Theresa Sample's essay was honored in the Age 12/13 Girls division and Kareena Bryson was honored in the Age 13/14 Girls division. Teresa and Kareena answered this question: ***Some say that winning the 1968 US Open as the first African American male was Arthur Ashe's greatest accomplishment, what do you think?***

From the application, we learn this about Arthur Ashe: "he was an American hero fighting battles both on and off the court. In his life, he broke barriers in the tennis world, becoming a three time grand slam champion, and the first African American male to win a grand slam tournament. Off the court, he was a social activist taking on issues like racial prejudice, AIDS, apartheid, and youth education. One of his many legacies includes the National Junior Tennis League ("NJTL") a network of youth serving organizations that provides tennis and education for all. His wish was for NJTL to be a resource for kids to develop skills for leadership and academic excellence."

These young writers will be honored at our annual meeting in October.



"DID YOU KNOW FTA HAS AN ENDOWMENT FUND?"

The Endowment Fund is a way to have your gift keep on giving & support FTA's community programming.

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions you may have...

What is the Fairbanks Tennis Association Endowment Fund?

The Endowment Fund is a separate fund of donations and contributions. **The donations to this fund will never be invaded!** Only the earnings will be used.

What are the earnings used for?

They will be used to support the programs and operation of FTA, with the exclusion of capital construction projects and routine administrative expenditures.

Why should I contribute to the Endowment Fund?

- 1) It continues to work for you providing affordable tennis to your community.
- 2) You leave a legacy which you can be proud and take satisfaction in knowing you are providing tennis in the Fairbanks and surrounding communities in perpetuity.
- 3) If you don't have time to serve on committees this is something wonderful you can do.

What is the minimum I need to contribute? *No donation is too small!*

Is my contribution tax-deductible?

Yes. Fairbanks Tennis Association is a qualified non-profit with 501c3 status.

How can I contribute to the Fund?

You may send a check to:
Fairbanks Tennis Association, POB 73993, Fairbanks AK. 99707
Please note that it should go into the Endowment Fund.

When was the Endowment Fund established?

The first investment into the Endowment Fund was in October 2008.

How much is in the Fund now?

As of June 30, 2010 the fund had a value of \$153,909.65.

Where did the money come from?

The FTA board members, all of the Endowment Fund committee members and individuals, just like you, have made contributions. We also have four Founders of the Endowment Fund.

How can I learn more details about the Endowment Fund before contributing?

You may call the Chairperson on the committee, Maryann Hoffman at 388-9512, or you can contact a committee member: Gwen Ramras 388-8334, Scott Husband 456-3361, Ken Ringstad 452-1205, and the Fairbanks Tennis Association Treasurer who is currently Lou Gross 347-0842.



**PLEASE REMEMBER NO DONATION IS TOO SMALL.
IT ADDS UP AND GROWS FOREVER!**

From the FTA Membership Committee

Are you a current member of the Fairbanks Tennis Association? If not, now is an excellent time to join or renew. Please join us for an exciting summer filled with lessons for all ages, tournaments, workshops, tennis fun days and community tennis events. We're sure you're aware of the numerous benefits of membership, including the FTA newsletter, e-mail notification of events (if desired), discounts on lessons and tournament fees and the opportunity to support a healthy activity that provides lifelong enjoyment for the entire family.

Please cut out and mail the membership form to the right to renew or join today! We hope to see you on the courts!



FTA Fairbanks Tennis Association

Application for Membership

Year: _____

FTA Membership (circle): NEW RENEWAL

Type (circle): INDIVIDUAL ADULT (\$10) INDIVIDUAL YOUTH (\$5)
 COUPLE* (\$15) FAMILY* (\$25)

*Please make checks payable to Fairbanks Tennis Association
P.O. Box 73993; Fairbanks, AK 99707. Voice Mail: 455-4301*

Name: _____

Family Member(s): _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Phone(s): _____

e-mail: _____

I'm not interested in receiving FTA announcements via e-mail.

Serve an ace for FTA!

I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution of: ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100
 ___ \$250 ___ \$500 ___

Other: \$ _____

I would like to volunteer.

Please indicate area(s) of interest or expertise:

PO Box 73993, Fairbanks, AK 99707
907.455.4301
info@fairbankstennis.org
www.fairbankstennis.org



TO:

FTA Board of Directors 2009-2010

President	Rose Anne Sample
Vice President	Joe Deutsch
Secretary	Clif Lando
Treasurer	Lou Gross
Board Positions:	Linda English
	Diane Kardash
	Mary Matthews
	Ashley Munro
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	Gwen Ramras (Emeritus)
	Joe Sullivan (Emeritus)

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After-School Programs	Maria Schmidt
Endowment	Maryann Hoffman
Development	Linda English & Ashley Munro
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Office Assistant	Cindy Simpson



FTA's mission: Through tennis, the Fairbanks Tennis Association promotes health, education and well being of all youth and adult residents of the Fairbanks North Star Borough and Interior Alaska.