

FEBRUARY 2017



Topspin News

The official Newsletter of the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club



Henry Monahan



Joseph Maestas

DINNERS AT THE CLUB

This month there are two Dinners At The Club and a guest speaker events. The next Dinner At the Club is Wednesday, February 15 at 5:30 pm with guest speaker Henry Monahan and Saturday, February 25 at 5:30 pm with guest speaker Santa Fe City Councilor, district 2, Joseph Maestas.

Club member Henry Monahan is the Director of Morning Star Gallery. Morning Star Gallery, located on Canyon Road, is renowned for carrying artistic treasures from over fifty

Native North American tribes. Mr. Monahan, a leading expert in the field, will talk about Southwest textiles.

Councilor Joseph Maestas is the former mayor of Española. He also served as president of Hispanic Elected Officials and on the board of directors of the National League of Cities. Additionally former Governor Bill Richardson appointed him to the New Mexico Economic Partnership Board of Directors. Mr. Maestas was born in Santa Fe and grew up in Santa Cruz, New Mexico. The topic of Councilor

DINNERS AT THE CLUB CONT.

Maestas' speech is "My Vision For Santa Fe". The dinner menu for February 15 is: seafood bisque or vegetarian tomato basil soup; beef Wellington or vegetarian mushroom Wellington; grilled asparagus polonaise; roast fingerling potatoes, and cheesecake brulee.

The menu for February 25 is: caprese salad; chicken parmesan or vegetarian eggplant parmesan; ratatouille, and tiramisu.

Appetizers will be served at 5:30 before both dinners. The cost per dinner is \$27.50. Space is limited so call the Club and make your reservations early.

NEXT BLOCK TIME STARTS

The current block time ends Sunday, February 12. The windy season and winter part 2 will be here soon. You can't do anything about the bad weather but you can get block time.



Requests for the next block time are due by Friday, February 9. With block time the bubble is reserved for your weekly game on the same day and time for six weeks. The cost for six weeks of block time is \$160. For a doubles foursome that is \$40 per player. Requests are available in the lounge or you can call the Club and put in a request by phone.

MATCH POINT CAFÉ

Our chef, James, is creating a new menu for the Café and he would like your input on what items you would like on the new menu. The new menu will have a new house specialty Grandma Garcia's Lentil Soup. Other new items are, spicy chicken wings, lobster salad sliders, pulled pork sliders, and green chili cheese burger sliders, just to name a few. The Café now has a soup and salad bar available every day. There is a selection of three hot soups, one is vegetarian. The Café is open Monday through Saturday from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. The Café can cater your party or special event. James can prepare anything you wish from a cheese and fruit plate, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, a buffet, to a sit down dinner. Call the Club and speak to James about ideas for your parties. Remember, catering from the Café is applied to your \$75 quarterly food minimum.



PROS CORNER BY ROCKY ROYER FORMER TOP 100 PLAYER EXPLOIT CENTER BALLS FOR SUCCESSFUL SINGLES

When playing singles there are two main tactics we employ to create opportunities and win points. These tactics are hitting the ball deep and spreading the court. Sometimes these tactics will create errors and win the point for you. Other times they will create opportunities for you that will hopefully allow you to win the point. By hitting deep and pushing your opponent back you make it harder for them to clear the net and find angles and openings. By spreading the court you make your opponent run and cover lots of territory. Both of these tactics will create some errors, and they will also create two types of opportunities. These are 1) short balls you can attack and follow to the net, and 2) center balls in the middle of the court. A center ball in singles is easier to hit to either of the deep corners in your opponent's court than a wide ball that is the result of a good cross court shot. On TV we will see top players engage in cross-court rallies trying to keep their opponent out to one side of the court. When one player fails to get there shot cross court and instead hits the shot in the middle of the court this is often the opening needed to find a way to get their opponent on the ropes. We see players use the inside-out

forehand angle in this way all the time on television. So take a cue from those players and hit lots of deep cross courts waiting patiently for a center ball that you can exploit to your advantage.

CHALLENGE LADDER STARTING IN FEBURARY

We are starting up a club challenge ladder. Many of the players preparing for USTA League season, have suggested that it would be a good way to stimulate some invaluable match-play experience. The league teams will use the match data to help determine lineups during League play. You do not need to be a league player to join the challenge ladder. Match play will begin the third week of February. If you would like to be included on the ladder please call 988-4100 to sign up by February 15th. We will have men's and women's singles and doubles ladders. If we get enough players we will have an "A" and a "B" ladder for each group.

DOUBLES MIXER

Weather permitting we will have a social tennis doubles mixer on Saturday, February 18 at 1:00 pm. Players of all levels are welcome to join the fun. The cost for members is \$5; non-members are welcome for a guest fee of \$10. Call the club and make your reservation.

PICKELBALL

THURSDAY GAME DAY



Cathy Gronquist (left), Victor Avila

Victor organizes pickleball games that are played on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 1:00 pm and Saturdays at 11:00am weather permitting. They are lots of fun, with lots of playing. There is no charge for members; non-members are welcome and pay a \$4.00 guest fee. Paddles and balls are provided and soon the Club will have paddles and balls for sale. Contact Victor to reserve your place in the games.

(victor@santafetennis.net)

Thursdays at 1:00 pm is board game day at the Club. There are four or five members who are planning to be here. You are a welcome to join them and bring your favorite board game if you wish. The games have not been chosen yet. Some of the games suggested are: Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, Monopoly and, Mexican Train. The Café will be open if you wish to order some lunch. Please call the Club to save your spot if you plan to attend.

USTA LEAGUES

The Club is forming two USTA league men's teams, a 3.5 and a 3.0 team. We are still looking for some players for both teams. If you are interested in joining one of the teams please contact Victor.

BRIDGE LESSONS AT THE CLUB

We are pleased to announce that Bob Walsh, a local bridge legend, will teach a beginner and intermediate bridge course starting Wednesday February 15. The 16 week course will meet at the Club on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3:30. The first 4 weeks are free. The cost for the subsequent 10 weeks is \$10 per week. Call the Club and sign up for this special offer.