

**OCTOBER 2021**



# ***Topspin News***

***The official Newsletter of the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club***

## **9/11 Tribute & Tennis**

On September 11, the Santa Fe Tennis & Swim Club hosted a memorial tribute for 4 of our long-time members; Scott Jones, Susan Rehr, Claire Weiner and John Silver. It was a wonderful celebration of life as we honored our friends with an afternoon of activities for both tennis players and non-players alike.

The festivities got started with a tennis mixer; a round-robin event that was open to the general public and attracted over 30 players.

The tournament preceded a most beautiful dedication, where a number of fellow club members took the opportunity to speak a few kind words about their friends.

Refreshments followed, where attendees were treated to an eclectic assortment of hors d'oeuvres which included a savory mix of Asian and American fusion, specially prepared for the occasion by our own Chef Leonard.



A thrilling exhibition ensued, led by local pros Ralph Bolton, Jim Parker, Joe Dorn, Claudia Montiero, Victor Avila, and Eddie Neese, as well as instructors from First Serve, the charity we chose to benefit from this event.

There was no charge to participate, but we did ask everyone attending to make a donation in the amount of their choosing to First Serve, a local non-profit benefitting children through education, tutoring, life skills and tennis lessons throughout the school year. All the money collected—over \$6000—went directly to First Serve!



**Scott Jones**

## 9/11 Tribute & Tennis Cont.

The Santa Fe Tennis & Swim Club would like to acknowledge and express our most sincere gratitude to the committee that put this wonderful event together:

Vicki Hennelly, Dolly O'Hara, Anne Coller, Karen Lawrence, and Jill Miyagawa.



**John Silver**

Also appreciation goes out to volunteers Bill White, Alice Davis, Jenny Brady, Jeff Lawrence, John Hennelly, and Liz Rees.



**Claire Weiner**

It is our special members such as yourselves that truly make this beautiful facility into a friendly and family focused club.

Last of all, a distinct thank you to everyone who attended the event and made this glorious tribute to our dearly departed friends possible.



**Susan Rehr**



## **JOHN KENNETH SILVER**

John Kenneth Silver passed away in his Santa Fe home on the morning of September 9th.

Born on July 30, 1952 to Abe Silver Jr. and Marian Petchesky Silver, John was a fourth generation Santa Fean who proudly shared his family's commitment to community service.

After attending Wood Gormley Elementary and Santa Fe High School, John graduated from Colorado College in 1974 and went on to earn his law degree at the University of New Mexico.

John's lifelong love of sports was cultivated at a young age. He became the first tennis professional at the Santa Fe Tennis & Swim Club (formerly Sangre de Cristo Racquet Club), where he continued to play and compete for the rest of his life. Along with being a goaltender for the Colorado College Tigers, he was a decorated member of the university's tennis team. He also imparted his love of the sport onto his children, Thomas and Johanna, early on and continued to coach them throughout their years at Santa Fe High School. John's passion for tennis led to countless friendships and adventures spanning from Florence to the West Indies.

John showed as much devotion to philanthropy and service as he did his tennis game. He created the St. Vincent Hospital Foundation, with proceeds from the popular tennis tournament he organized with his pro football player clients.

Always eager to explore new interests and share them with loved ones, John dabbled in everything from fine art to fly fishing. He performed and helped stage ballet performances with Gloria, his beloved wife of 37 years, grew ribbon-winning turban squash, backed band members on the tambourine, and traveled around the world.

Above all of his contributions and accomplishments, loved ones will remember John for who he was. A loving husband, father, and friend. A problem solver who was of service to anyone who needed him. A generous benefactor who wanted to make the world better for everyone. An incredible individual who made the lives of those who knew him rich, rewarding, and sweet. John is survived by mother Marian Silver, wife Gloria Silver, children Thomas and Johanna Silver, sisters Carolyn Silver and Margaret Silver Jones, niece Alyson Silver Jones and her fiancé Max Hendrix. *(Obituary originally published in Santa Fe New Mexican from Sep. 16 to Sep. 19, 2021.)*

### ***Special Homage to John Silver***

***From SFTSC Director of Tennis, Ralph Bolton***

*John Silver passed away last month and I do not know if the club will ever be quite the same for me. Spending an hour hitting different shots with John was always fun and rewarding. Rewarding might be a funny word to use, but spending time with such a high-quality person was rewarding. He was insightful with any topic that came up. Whenever John was at the club to hit, he always stopped by my office to check if there was any way that he could help me, whether it be a club issue, my personal life, or my tennis game. We all knew John as an attorney, tennis instructor, tennis player and wine enthusiast, but to me, and to a lot of us, he was so much more. Oh, how I wish I had spent more time on the court with him and had not waited until the pandemic was over to go out to dinner. Regrets? Yes, but I feel so very fortunate to have known John Silver. You will be seeing a bench here with a plaque on it and down the road I hope to have a tournament at the club in John's name. And now I know that the good do leave us much too young! My condolences to John's beautiful family, Gloria, Johanna, and Tom. To all John's friends we are lucky to have known him and he left this space too soon.*

*—R.B.*

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# **SPECIAL EVENT ?**

## **OUR CLUB IS AVAILABLE FOR YOU TO RENT !**

Did you know you could have ***your*** party or other special event at the Club?

Weddings, anniversaries and birthday parties, family reunions; whatever your event might be, let our professional staff take care of all the details so that you can enjoy yourself and spend valuable time with friends and family. Our head chef, Leonard Trejo, can cater any special event, from large, sizable celebrations to small, intimate gatherings. Our venue can accommodate settings either indoors or outdoors, or both. Call to set up an appointment to discuss the details for your special event today!



***Chef Leonard and Jonas getting prepared for a special event at the Club***

Chef Leonard will be preparing to-go turkey dinners, including all the fixings, for Thanksgiving this year.

Availability will be limited. Please call 505-988-4100 for more details if you are interested in ordering.

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## **POOL CLOSED ON OCT 4**

The swimming pool closed for the season on October 4th. Thank you to our wonderful patrons for the fun times and all the enjoyment we experienced in the water this summer.

Santa Fe Tennis & Swim Club will be looking forward to seeing you again down by the pool in the spring of 2022!



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# MEET OUR NEWEST COACH:

## JOE DORN

Joe Dorn grew up in Washington D.C, playing tennis at the Junior Tennis Champions Center in College Park, MD. He credits his parents for exposing him to tennis at an early age.

“I began playing tennis due to my parent’s interest in the sport and then became hooked after watching Agassi at the US Open,” Joe admits. “I made good friends at the tennis center and never wanted to leave the courts.”

Throughout his youth, Joe was consistently ranked #1 in D.C. and top 10 in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Thanks in part to his stellar play, Joe earned a tennis scholarship to Vanderbilt University where he excelled in both singles and doubles. After a year at Vanderbilt, Joe transferred to Claremont McKenna College (Division 3) for more balance and less intense tennis.

While at Claremont, Joe won a NCAA Team National Championship and Individual Doubles Championship. He believes that switching to Division 3 allowed him to focus on school and tennis, while still maintaining relationships and enjoying life in college.



Following his time at Claremont, Joe became the assistant coach for the Claremont Men's team, where he was mentored by Head Coach Paul Settles. Subsequently, he soaked up plenty of knowledge; eventually he developed his own teaching style and techniques.

Joe has worked with youth in the classroom, in wilderness settings, and of course, on the tennis court. He is excited to be in Santa Fe, exploring the outdoors and working at the Santa Fe Tennis and Swim Club.

***Learn from a NCAA Champion! Call Joe at (202) 215-3204 to set up a lesson today.***



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# *October Tennis*

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## 2021 CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

There was beautiful weather for the Club Championships! Thank you to all who participated and to those who came and watched.

Winners are:

*Mixed Doubles A, **Claudia & Andy Joseph***

*Mixed Doubles B, **Sally Harvey & Eric Harris***

*Women's Doubles A, **Deb Croney & Jeanine Keay***

*Women's Doubles B, **Nike Kern & LeaBeth LaDue***

*Men's Doubles B, **Eric Harris & Will Greiner***

*Men's Singles B, **Eric Harris***

*Men's Singles 60+, **Mathew Barker***



# October Tennis

## BLOCK TIME

The first 6-week session of indoor court block-time will start on 11/7. You can pick up your block-time request form at the Front Desk. Request forms need to be filled out and turned in by 11/1.

## **ADULT CLINICS**

### **Monday Evening Women's Clinic**

**MONDAYS / 5:30pm—7:00pm**

Teaches technique and strategy for players with drills and interactive playing.

*\*\$35 per member/ non-members add \$20 guest fee*

### **Tuesday Evening Men's Clinic**

**TUESDAYS / 5:30pm—7:00pm**

Teaches technique and strategy for players with drills and interactive playing.

*\*\$35 per member/ non-members add \$20 guest fee*

### **Wednesday Mixed 4.0 Clinic**

**WEDNESDAYS / 5:30pm—7:00pm**

Teaches technique and strategy for 4.0 players with drills and interactive playing.

*\*\$35 per member/ non-members add \$20 guest fee*

### **Sunday Beginner's Clinic**

**SUNDAYS / 11:00am—12:00pm**

Whether you're a beginner or a rusty player, this clinic teaches the basics of tennis through instruction and drill practice.

*\*\$25 per member/ non-members add \$20 guest fee*



## **Staff/Coaches**

**David Garcia**

General Manager

**Kenneth Beal**

Asst. General Manager

**Ralph Bolton**

Director of Tennis

USTA Elite Pro

(505) 501-0558

**Jim Parker**

Pro Emeritus

USTA Master Pro

(832) 492-4615

**Joe Dorn**

Tennis Instructor

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**Christine Wantuck**

Pickleball Instructor

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