President’s Message

Dear HWTA Ladies,

Casinos and Lotteries are always tempting you to come and try to become the lucky one who will “Win Big”, but you know what you’re already a “Big Winner” because you’re a HWTA member and that big win only cost you $15.00 a year. Even those elite original members who started HWTA 50 years ago have only invested $750.00 in membership dues. I am already convinced that being a HWTA member has so much to offer if you asked me “Deal” or “No Deal” I would say “Deal” and I’m going to be just like our elite original members and be a HWTA lifetime member. What choice are you making? Will you actively try to get your friends to join HWTA?

When you read entertainment reviews and someone writes “Well Worth Attending” do you then make plans to go check it out? When it comes to the HWTA 50th Anniversary events you can’t wait for reviews because you will have already missed the excitement. So far, the Membership Social, HWTA Happy Hour, Big 50th Party, and Swinging in the 50’s events were all “Well Worth Attending”! The creative ideas, decorations, food, music, drinks and games taking place at these events could be summarized as HWTA’s Greatest Parties! Good news for some of you is that there is still more being planned, so read your Newsletters and emails being sent from Cindy Younger to make sure you join the fun the rest of the year.

Ladies your HWTA officers and Chair Leads keep meeting and coming up with creative ideas, so that you have memorable events to attend and they keep HWTA moving forward all year long. Also, this year the 50th Anniversary Committee has been very busy doing many tasks to make this 50th year super special. At the last general membership meeting the nominating committee was approved and this group of four ladies will be the ones who will be proposing a slate of officers for 2018 to keep HWTA thriving! Keep thanking all these ladies when you have the opportunity for a job well done. We all love to have Aces and win our tennis matches, but having HWTA ladies who volunteer when needed clearly shows who the Big Winner is! You can have your Aces, but be a Big Winner and say “yes” when asked to help with HWTA.

It’s never too early to start thinking about who you will nominate for the 2017 Sportsmanship Award and Most Improved Player Award. Before you know it, summer will be over and Cindy Reaves will be looking for your nominations. So, start thinking who deserves these awards.

HWTA has no secrets and we try to post everything pertaining to HWTA to the website (hwtnews.com), so if you’re looking for something check out the HWTA web site. If you have suggestions for improvements or if you have WordPress expertise please let us know.

Kim McCandless
President, HWTA
**2017 HWTA Calendar**

August 12  
HWTA 50th Anniversary Social - details on page 4

September 16  
General Membership Meeting, 8:30 a.m.

October 12 - 15  
HWTA Fall Tournament - details coming soon

December 5  
Holiday Luncheon - details coming soon

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**Members Experience with HWTA**

**Jennie Coe** has been playing tennis since 1941 and has been a member of HWTA since 1969. Below are her words about her experience with HWTA.

HWTA means more than just tennis. While tennis is the primary reason for HWTA to exist HWTA is a group of caring ladies, many of whom I have known for years. Yes we do promote tennis but we also care about each other and the community, and over the years have supported many worthy causes with proceeds from our tennis tournaments.

No matter what level of tennis you play you are always welcome and encouraged to do your best, as I found when I joined a very small group many years ago. At that time there were not many ladies playing and I had really missed the competition and companionship having played for many years before coming here. I can truly say HWTA has meant a lot to me. A lot of emphasis has been put on "Tennis Sisters "recently and my true "Tennis Sisters "are Dottie Patterson and Elaine Fisher.

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My name is **Mary Fox**. Joining HWTA was one of the first things I did when I moved to the Huntsville area 18 months ago – and it is one of the BEST things I did!

I have played tennis for most of my life – until I moved to Alaska. I did not touch a racquet for almost 10 years. I was anxious to get back onto the court after moving here but since I didn’t know anyone, I wasn’t sure how to go about getting started. I really didn’t need to worry. Once I joined HWTA, matches began coming in spades! The first event I attended was the membership social at the beautiful home of Kay Brown. So many HWTA ladies introduced themselves to me and began setting up matches for me!

Once I was back out on the court, the friendship and encouragement meant so much to me!

Then, this past November, I had to have hip labrum surgery with shaving of a large bone spur. Once again, my friends from HWIA showed their care and concern by sending numerous cards and encouraging phone calls. I am so thankful for all of this! Rehab is so boring and often you can’t see the light at the end of the tunnel, but with everyone’s rooting me on to get back to the courts, I completed rehab and now am playing even better!

Being part of the HWTA has helped me meet and make friends with so many women and I look forward to meeting more of you out on the court or at HWTA events!!

Returning member **Mary-John Thornton** had these words to say. I’m delighted to be a part of HWIA. I have returned to Huntsville and I realize how much I have missed this group of wonderful ladies. Not the same where I have been. I grew up in Huntsville and will be glad to take my last breath in this wonderful city. I can assure everyone it will be later rather than sooner and if I have a choice on the court... Thanks HWTA for welcoming me back!
Last year HWTA tried a new fund-raising idea where Banner advertising was created, so that everyone coming to HTC during our HWTA Tennis tournament weekends would see who proudly supports HWTA by advertising their business, hobby, or anything special they want to promote. To keep this idea growing HWTA needs your help. Currently several have stepped up to support HWTA’s Banner and we thank Brenda Armstrong - Edward Jones, Pat Clowers - Topspin, Athena Little - Equilibria Therapeutic Massage, and Mellow Mushroom.

Who’s interested in buying a HWTA Banner? Who knows someone they can ask to buy a Banner? It's simple to get a banner advertised and it won't cost a fortune. Banners are available in various sizes and price is determined on whether you supply a banner or HWTA will get your design made especially for you. Price range is affordable, $100.00 to $200.00, and just think about the benefits.

Who’s ready to buy a Banner or help by getting a friend or business contact you know to buy a Banner so that they will be displayed during the HWTA Fall tournament in October along with the four others mentioned above who are already a HWTA supporter.

Point of contact for Banners is Babs Bruce, so if anyone knows of someone who might be interested contact Babs by phone c-256-603-8634 or email babs81160@yahoo.com.

Babs Bruce, HWTA, 2nd VP

Send us your Bragging Rights

HWTA would love to brag about our members being USTA Local league Champions and especially those winning at state, sectionals and nationals for the last five years (covering years 2012 to present date). All leagues can be submitted - ladies doubles, combo, Tri level and Mixed. If you want to be included in the HWTA bragging rights email the following information to: HWTAcontact@gmail.com

1. Team Name
2. USTA League and Year (example - 2016 Fall combo 40+)
3. List Of Team member names
4. Photo (if available)

The bragging right submittals will be posted to the hwtnews.com website, HWTA Facebook page, and will be in future HWTA newsletters when possible. HWTA needs to catch up on a few years where HWTA tennis Sisters have earned bragging rights for "Winning On The Courts"!

HWTA Ladies are not just Champion Members they are also Champions on the Courts. So jump on this opportunity to help HWTA showcase our Champions and submit your bragging rights today!

Mary Moseley, HWTA Website Lead

Summer Social, June 17, 2017

The HWTA Summer Social was held on June 17, 2017 from 10-12 with lunch served after the event. As usual, the weather was hot, sunny and humid. Our sign up sheet listed 20 participants but only 12 people showed up for play. We used three courts and all participants played until noon and were a bit overheated when finished.

Lunch went well and prizes were drawn and given out to the lucky recipients. The Tennis Center donated a racket stringing which was won by Keith Good. A one hour lesson with Joc Simmons was won by Terri Good. Everyone received at least one prize which were awarded by a drawing.

Thanks to the players that made it possible and helped clean up after lunch.

Kathy French/Pam Vickroy, Summer Social Chair Persons
HWTA 50th Anniversary
Tennis Celebration

Saturday, August 12, 2017
Exhibition Matches
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs
Athletic Club Alabama - Leeman Ferry Rd.
$10 - HWTA Members  $12 Non-Members
Cash Bar available

5:00  Come party with HWTA

5:15  Join Betty Choate, Caffey Litkenhous, Doris McHugh & Dottie Robinson for an exhibition match to show us how timeless tennis can be.

5:30  Continue with Alee Clayton, Parrish Simmons, Eddie Jacques & Joc Simmons showing the finer points of the game.

6:15  Stay for Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and all the trimmings. A great time to socialize with old friends and make new friends.

Buy your tickets now!!!!
Contact: Linda Baumbach - linda.baumbach@knology.net, 256-603-0123
Sue Chatham - chatham@knology.net, 256-684-7950
Karen Mitchell - rrktm@bellsouth.net, 256-651-5593
Swinging the 50’s HWTA Membership Meeting

Poodle Skirts

HWTA President leading the members??

What now?
Great Party!
We had a blast!
Hope to see everyone at the next Party!
50th HWTA Anniversary Celebration

I sincerely hope you were able to join us on May 24 from 6 to 8 pm. for our 50th HWTA Celebration at Sally Walker’s lovely home. It was FANTASTIC!!! Please thank our hostess and host, Sally and her husband Ben Walker. They provided the perfect setting for our gathering. If you didn’t know one of our founding members, Doris McHugh, you know her now! Mayor Tommy Battle and his wife, Eula, and former Mayor Loretta Spencer were among the many guests. Roses were given to all the original members present, Doris McHugh, Cathy Deaton, Betty Choate, and Nancy Liston. Also roses were given to past Presidents. Thank you, Kim McCandless, for the beautiful toast to 50 years for HWTA. So many interesting former members attended along with Joc Simmons from HTC and Eddie Jacques and Rusty Walker from ACA.

But the whole event was pulled off without a hitch by the five men who parked the cars. Special thanks to all of you who made the recipes Dottie Robinson and Connie Keltner provided. To the many workers who put out the food, and to Cher Piette for the lovely piano music. Special thanks to Jane Bise for the lovely floral arrangements, Diana Davidson our photographer, and to Marsha Gates for the fabulous boards with past and present pictures. And the list could go on and on.

Ladies, it was the most perfect topping to our 50th. I am grateful to all of you for making it so special.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!
Spring Tournament Wrap-up

What a Spring Tournament! It’s one we’ll all definitely remember, and it even made HWTA History! HWTA’s slogan for the year, “Fifty Years At The Heart”, could not have been more appropriate. We had 124 ladies playing in 8 events along with a lot of contributions to our charity, Meals On Wheels. There was the delicious pizza from Donato’s, along with a variety of goodies donated by our wonderful ladies, that we enjoyed on Thursday and Friday nights. On Friday night we had the pleasure of several of our players being interviewed by WZDX about the tournament. Saturday was our “Wimbledon Whites Day” that brought big smiles from our players wearing their 50th Anniversary dri-fit shirts.

Our Spring tournament started on April 20 and was scheduled to go through April 23, but unfortunately the rain made that impossible. With all the rain delays our tennis ladies persevered, and we were able to finish some of the matches before having to postpone the remaining matches until another date. The final match was played on June 28, with the winners being Kim McCandless and Linda Brewster in the Senior 3.5 Consolation Division. Our Spring Tournament made HWTA history by being the first and only tournament to take over 10 weeks to finish! A big thank you to all the ladies who played in this historical Spring Tournament!

We’re already underway planning for the Fall Tournament October 12-15. Our tennis clothing sale and our raffles are always a fun part of the tournament, and we are in need of a Clothing Sale Coordinator and a Raffle Coordinator to head them each up. All of the tennis clothing/tennis items are donated, and they take time to be sorted, tagged, and hung before the sale. Items for the raffle come from contributions donated by individuals, teams, businesses, and the community. Some Items raffled off in the past have been picnic baskets for two complete with wine, private lessons with Joc, and jewelry. It’s a great way to showcase your talents, or your business. If you would like to be the Clothing Sale Coordinator or the Raffle Coordinator please contact Sue Gibson at suegibson_06@yahoo.com, or an HWTA Board member.

Women’s 2.5 Doubles
1st Place – Elizabeth Bryant and Francesca Freudenberger
2nd Place – Sharon Hurst and Terri King
Consolation Winners – Anita Dulaney and Melissa Garrison

Women’s 3.0 Singles
1st Place – Courtney Perez
2nd Place – Lisa Pant
Consolation Winner – LeeAnne Schultz

Women’s 3.0 Doubles
1st Place – Jennifer Crowe and Courtney Perez
2nd Place – Melanie Williams and Christina Voelkel
Consolation Winners – Ann Creager and Christy Presson

Women’s 3.5 Doubles
1st Place – Kristy Palmer and Christy Russell
2nd Place – Sarah Paulson and Susan Turner
Consolation Winners – Rebecca Watkins and Carolyn Carter

Women’s 4.0 Doubles (round robin)
1st Place – Stephanie Steele and Pam Anderson
2nd Place – Maggie Brown and Thanh Boyer

Senior 3.0 Doubles
1st Place – Babs Bruce and Jill Turner
2nd Place – Rachelle Eccher and Dottie Patterson
Consolation Winners – Sonya Reeder and Justin Petersen

Senior 3.5 Doubles
1st Place – Miran Rocha and Sasiwan Roe
2nd Place – Susan Turner and Cindy Reaves
Consolation Winners – Kim McCandless & Linda Brewster

Senior 4.0 Doubles (round robin)
1st Place – Irene Wisner and KC Jones
2nd Place – Pat Louis and Dottie Robinson
Spring 2017 1st Place Tournament Winners

2.5 Doubles: Francesca Freudenberger
             Elizabeth Bryant

3.0 Singles: Courtney Perez

3.0 Doubles: Courtney Perez
             Jennifer Crowe

3.0 Doubles: Pam Anderson
             Stephanie Steele

SR 3.0 Doubles: Jill Turner
               Babs Bruce

SR 3.5 Doubles: Miran Rocha
               Sasiwan Roe

SR 4.0 Doubles: Irene Wisner
               K C Jones
HWTA Membership Form 2017

DATE: ___________________

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

CITY: __________________________ STATE: _______ ZIP: __________

HOME PHONE: __________________ WORK PHONE: ______________________

CELL PHONE: __________ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____________________________

USTA RATING: ______ RENEWAL: _____ NEW MEMBER: _____

Has your information changed since last year? Yes or No (please circle one)

The above information will be used for HWTA’s Handbook. If you do not want the information in the Handbook, leave the space blank.

Membership dues are $15/year. Please make your check out to HWTA and mail to Cindy Gattis, 809 Muriel Dr., Huntsville, AL 35802. Questions, please contact Cindy Gattis at 256-714-6167 or cindy.gattis@mtsi-va.com.