

# Coastside Tennis Association

Half Moon Bay, CA

[www.CoastsideTennis.org](http://www.CoastsideTennis.org)

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## Board of Directors

President:  
Val Fernelius  
Vice President:  
Dwight Wilson  
Treasurer:  
Margie Gater  
Secretary:  
Joff Baker  
Membership:  
Annette Saunders  
League Coordinator:  
Terry Sullivan  
Maintenance:  
Marc Passen  
Webmaster:  
Dan Sullivan  
Newsletter:  
Ron Weiss

## CTA Tennis Opportunities

2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr USTA Leagues:  
- Mens 18 & over 3.5  
- Womens 18 & over 3.5  
- Womens 18 & over 4.0

Fit By Tennis:  
Tennis and Fitness  
9am – Mon & Wed  
All levels welcome

Saturday Morning Tennis:  
Saturdays 8:30 to 10:30  
Suggested Levels-  
Mens' 3.0  
Womens' 3.5

CTA Sunday Social:  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of month-3pm  
All Levels welcome

For additional information  
contact Ron Weiss at  
[rwhmbtennis@gmail.com](mailto:rwhmbtennis@gmail.com)

## On The Line

1st Qtr 2015 Edition of the CTA Newsletter

### Our CTA Community - Much More Than Tennis



Ed and Jidge Boell are retired teachers who have played tennis for decades with CTA and raised two daughters who played tennis for Half Moon Bay High School. "After Ed's recent serious auto accident in January, I was amazed by all the meals and supportive cards," says Jidge. "Even from CTA members we don't know well. I want to thank everyone from CTA."

*Note: For information on visiting Ed or sending cards, contact Jidge at [gboell@comcast.net](mailto:gboell@comcast.net)*



Although Jesse Castillo has been playing tennis for twenty years in the Bay Area, he truly dedicated himself to tennis on the Coastside in 2010 when he was confronted by a serious health challenge. Now it's a rare day that you won't see Jesse on the courts. Says Jesse, "For me, tennis has become a vital health aid for both physical *and* mental health. 'Tennis' may stand at the center of CTA but a living and breathing sense of community extends the well-being far beyond the tennis courts."



Noi and Jason Hereford came to the Coastside in 2014 from an assignment in Egypt. With a career in the US Air Force, the Hereford family has lived all over the world. "HMB and the CTA community has made us feel at home," says Jason. "Raising a tennis family, our children take weekly lessons with Sandy and both Noi and I can be found playing USTA matches as well as Fit By Tennis with Jesse Castillo."

### Message From CTA President Val Fernelius



So much has happened both on and off the tennis courts during the first few months of 2015. Despite the fact that CTA is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose board members are all volunteers, we have been very busy working with local community officials to make tennis both accessible and fun here on the Coastside. Here are a few highlights: CTA recently signed a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with the school district that addresses things like the use of the tennis courts, operational responsibility, court maintenance, operational costs, capital improvements, and insurance. One detail that I want all members to be aware of is that between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm and when

school is in session, only CTA members are allowed to play on the high school courts. To help the high school monitor court traffic, one CTA member from each tennis group must sign in as a guest at the school administration office and sign out when the activity is finished. Remember this sign-in policy is only in effect during regular school hours. CTA board members and USTA captains will be issuing CTA ID cards to all members so that we can identify ourselves when asked by high school staff. On behalf of the CTA Board and our members, I would like to express our gratitude to CUSD Superintendent Tony Roehrick and HMB High School Principal Ron Campana for their support on this issue of court accessibility at Half Moon Bay High School. Working with these two school

administrators reminded me that Half Moon Bay is truly a special community. Now back to tennis... CTA has more tennis going on than ever before (see sidebar for details and times). In summary there were 5 USTA league teams this current season, social tennis (1<sup>st</sup> Sundays), competitive tennis (Saturday mornings) and Fit By Tennis (Monday and Wednesday mornings). Lastly, I am sad to announce that after many years of volunteering countless hours, CTA board member Diana Baker has chosen to give up her Treasurer's position. On behalf of all CTA members I want to thank Diana for her ongoing dedication and commitment to our tennis community. The good news is that Margie Gater has agreed to take over as Treasurer. Although Diana is not going anywhere, feel free to thank her when you see her on the courts or in the community.



# On The Line

1st Qtr 2015 Edition of the CTA Newsletter

## Robb Fox - Enjoying Tennis and Life!

Over the years most of us have endured various aches and pains while playing tennis. Fortunately our injuries usually heal and we return to good health and fun tennis. For Robb Fox, aches and pains are a way of life. Stoic but always remaining positive, his list of injuries, surgeries and physical therapy programs is a long one. Some of the highlights include two knee and two hip replacements, three broken legs, a double fracture of his wrist and three broken collar bones. Although Robb's first injury occurred in kindergarten, he has faced sports injuries his entire life. In one particular period beginning in 2011, he endured five surgeries in 10 months.

So what drives this Coastside weekend warrior? "I just love all sports," says Robb. He grew up in the small town of Tremont, Illinois playing sports, fishing and hunting. Coming to the Bay Area in 1978, he immediately took advantage of the California outdoor lifestyle by immersing himself in daily pick-up basketball games, tennis meet-ups and adult softball leagues. Moving to Half Moon Bay in 1988 was a good choice for Robb because he fit right into the Coastside community. Coming from the Midwest, he is wired for small-town living. Pumpkin Festival, Rock the Block, Dream Machines and Vinality are just some of

his treasured Half Moon Bay traditions.

Robb's favorite local hangout is the Half Moon Bay Wine and Cheese Shop on Main Street. It is there you will find him on most Friday nights discussing the virtues of zinfandels and pinots with a small group of wine aficionados. He became interested in wine in 1986 while on a business trip in Belgium. In 2001, he began pouring wine at the Picchetti Winery in Cupertino, furthering his expertise. In 2003, he joined a group of HMB amateur vintners who made their own wine from fresh grapes they picked and processed in vineyards throughout California.

Whether he's delivering one of his blistering serves on the tennis court or savoring a glass of zinfandel at the HMB Wine and Cheese Shop, Robb does it with gusto. He loves sports, wine, food - and most of all, people. Hanging out with Robb in Half Moon Bay is like sitting with a local celebrity on a parade float. When people walk by, they wave hello. When drivers pass by on the street, they tap their horns with a honk of approval. HMB residents know they can always exchange gossip and stories with Robb if they want to catch up on the local news. He truly has mastered the art of enjoying life, and CTA is happy to have him as a member.

## Fun Facts about Robb Fox

- In high school he lettered in football, basketball and track
- Served in the U.S Navy for 3 years
- Received a degree in Accounting from Illinois State University
- Has poured wine for the HMB Chamber of Commerce Pumpkin Festival booth for 15 years
- Married for 41 years to Toni and has a son named Kyle

## Cougar Tennis: Our Dedicated Coaching Staff at HMB High School



To come out and cheer the HMBHS Tennis Teams, match schedule information is available at the HMBHS website at:

<http://hmbhs.schoolloop.com/cougar-athletics>



Talking to Joana Stark, HMB High School Boys Varsity Tennis coach, is like meeting an international tennis celebrity. Joana was born in Lisbon, Portugal and quickly became an elite junior player on the international tennis circuit. In 1997, she became Portugal's national U-12 champion. Eventually sponsored by Nike, in 2000 she participated in an ATP Master Series exhibition where she played against Pete Sampras. While playing in an ITF tournament in the Caribbean, the opportunity to study and play college tennis at the University of San Francisco presented itself. From 2003 to 2007, Joana studied international business and philosophy while playing and eventually coaching for the USF Dons. Soon after, she met and married HMB local surfer, Jason Stark. In 2010, the two adventurers with their dog, Layla, embarked on the ultimate road trip driving to Panama. The trip culminated in a two-month stay with a family living in the Panamanian jungle without electricity or running water.

Joana's passion for tennis and life has spread among the young Cougar players. She coaches with a three-tiered approach, focusing on footwork, speed and endurance and strategies. Thanks, Joana for giving back to the Coastside tennis community!

Tracy Halbersleben, HMB High School Girls Varsity Tennis coach, grew up in a family of athletes near Provo, Utah. Since her father played Division 1 tennis at the University of Utah, Tracy began spending time on the courts when she was 10 years old. Competitive by nature, Tracy first focused on swimming in high school, while also playing tennis off and on. A natural athlete, she switched to tennis in college and began playing for the Monterey Peninsula College team. Shortly after college, Tracy started playing USTA team tennis, and has played and captained on teams out of Ocean Colony for over 25 years.

Tracy also enjoys being a tennis mom. Her son, Gabe, and her husband, Mark, are on the road most weekends, cheering on Gabe as he competes in high-level junior tournaments throughout California.

Tracy's passion for junior tennis has been exactly what the girls' team needs. In her first season, the Lady Cougars went undefeated, and have been bumped up to the Bay Division. Tracy's practices are infused with music, yoga, and many competitive but fun drills, as well as an open challenge ladder. Tracy, thanks for making Cougar tennis exciting and competitive!