

NORTHWEST LOUISIANA COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION
"To promote and develop tennis in Northwest Louisiana"
Minutes – March 7, 2012

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jay Boyd. Those in attendance include Elana Engleman, John Liles, Sue Allender, Sue Watts, Eddie Copete, Shelly Naisbitt, Joe Thomas, Rhonda Rubben, Bill Oliver, James Hunt, Don Johnson, Bonnie Cox, John Thomas, and Stevie Schmidt.
2. A motion to waive the reading of the February minutes was made by James Hunt, Bill Oliver seconds the motion, and all were in favor. The minutes stand as written.
3. Treasurer John Liles gave the balance as of February 29, \$98,979.85. This balance reflects the accounts of Capital One (\$70,950.70), Red River Bank (\$28,029.15), Friends of Southern Hills (\$1,591.) and Play Tennis Bossier (\$1,964.89).
4. Men's Coordinator Bill Oliver reported that the Adult league matches were in progress and all was running smoothly.
5. Gay Greer, 10 and Under Coordinator, reported via memo that she has been busy promoting the CTA Kickoff Fundraiser Tournament. She has been busy gathering items for the silent auction and helping Elana Engleman with the kid's festival on Saturday from 1 – 4 ... Hopefully the weather will cooperate. She is looking for a storage unit to store all the 10 and Under equipment, which is currently being stored at Querbes. (James Hunt offered storage space at Cockrell and he thinks David Kimball also has some space available at Southern Hills). There will be a Play Day at Cockrell on March 31st. It is the end of Spring Break, but Gay will be getting the word out early to the Caddo Schools. (Jay mentioned that players will need to be registered for the 10 and Under or re-registered since membership expires in April ...Rhonda Rubben with FDDOC will register her 125 players.). Speaking of Spring Break (March 26 – 30), Gay is planning of visiting all the facilities and talk with the Pros about their 10 and Under programs and their goals for 2012. Also, she wants to remind all the Pros that she does need your metrics.
6. Shelly Naisbitt has officially been hired by the LTA as our Community Coordinator. Shelly has been busy producing and distributing flyers for the 10 and Under Fundraiser, City Circuit Tournaments and 10 and Under Free Memberships to all the area tennis facilities. Note to all ... John Liles asks that if you do have something copied, please do not get colored copies, he just received the bill from the printers ...ugh. For the 10 and Under fundraiser, Shelly has created a Pie The Pro contest between Richard Verzaal and Elana Engleman. Whoever raises the most money will receive a pie in the face, the throwee will be determined at an auction. She has contacted the Rotary Club about donations, and has received items from Whataburger for the FDDOC participants. The Elementary and Middle School team tennis is in full swing as well as the Saturday programs: Fun, Friends and Fitness in the mornings with Valerie Quarles in the mornings and the FDDOC students with Rhonda Rubben in the afternoons. Again,

she wanted to remind everyone that the initial 10 and Under memberships will expire in April, so please remind your players to renew their USTA memberships. Shelly will be glad to send you the names of the 10 and under members in your area if you would send her your zip codes. Shelly is also excited to announce that Smash Zone will be coming to the Barksdale Air Force Base Air Show on April 21 and 22. Two courts will be set up at the show and she will require three volunteers each day, for each session ... either 9 – 1 or 1 to 5. If you are interested, please contact Shelly at dsnaibitt@yahoo.com. Shelly is also lining up volunteers to help paint the lines at the FDDOC schools. Bonnie Cox has some paint left over when she painted the lines at Stoner (Bonnie said that it took about 1/2 gallon to paint two courts and she used traffic paint purchased at Home Depot).

7. Rhonda Rubben the director the FDDOC Winners Circle reported on the great job everyone is doing with the children in her five schools. Many thanks to Anner Means, Bonnie Cox, James Hunt, Lille Kirkendoll and Efe Amen for the great work they have done with the children. The 125 children from five elementary schools (Creswell, Stoner, Mooretown, Southern Hills, and Sunset) go to tennis three times a week during the enrichment hour and work with the above mentioned coaches and a teacher. As mentioned earlier, Shelly has been helping Rhonda organized the five play dates on Saturdays for the children. Kaye Cochran, with CPSB PEP Grant, is supplying buses for transportation for the Saturday Play Dates (in fact of the 58 students that attended the March 3 Play Date, 49 rode the buses). Rhonda wanted to bring this to the NWLaCTA's attention because as of April 2012 the grant will end for Creswell, Stoner and Southern Hills and Sunset and Mooretown grants will end December 2012. To give you an idea of the costs that the FDDOC Grant covers, the 5 week session costs \$9,000 (this includes weekly classes, coaches, teachers, racquets, tee shirts, snacks, prizes and fees for the program). Each student will receive a new racquet at the end of the 5 weeks and hopefully we can get some of the children interested in continuing to play during the summer months. Rhonda hopes that next Fall the NWLaCTA will be able to coordinate with the schools and continue the tennis program. Kaye Cochran, PEP Grant or Jimmy Windham, PE Coordinator for CPSB, could possible assist with this process. Jay asked John Thomas, head of the Junior Tennis Committee, to work on the program and even look into the NJTL grant. The last play date will be Saturday, March 24th at Querbes and we need to send out a media blast to all the area news stations, LTA, principals, etc. Again, we want to thank Rhonda Rubben for all the work she has done on bringing tennis to these schools and Kaye Cochran and Jimmy Windham for supporting her.
8. Plans for the CTA Circuit Kick-off and 10 and Under Fundraiser are well in hand thanks to Elana Engleman, Richard Verzaal, et al. To date Elana has been busy dealing with tennislink and has 156 entries plus many, many phone calls in regard to tennislink. She has sponsors lined up (Simple Church, David Toms Foundation, Red River Chevy, All State Insurance, Home Federal, etc). Also in the works is a 10 and Under Festival at the Aquatic Center in Minden.

9. The PTR will hold a Junior Development Certification Workshop at Querbes Tennis Center on April 15 and April 16. To register or for more information call 843-785-7244 or visit www.ptrtennis.org.
10. We are also pleased to announce that Bonnie Cox has agreed to be our CTA's key contact person for the 10 and Under programming. Many thanks Bonnie for all of your help. If you need to contact her, her e mail address is acox@bellsouth.net.

**NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2012
NOON – EAST RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB**