



The Match

Winter 2021

www.mtef.com



At the Top

Michael Buckholdt Takes Reins as President of MTEF Board



Buckholdt

A new chapter began for the Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation on Dec. 9 when Michael Buckholdt was elected to a two-year term as president at the organization's annual meeting. He succeeds Kurt Janzvit in the post.

"I am incredibly excited to take on the role of board president at MTEF," Buckholdt said. "I admire the work and leadership that Kurt, Beth and the [other] past presidents have done and look to build on the momentum they have created for the organization."

During his term, Buckholdt has the following goals:

1. Provide support, leadership, and guidance for our executive director and tennis director so they can continue to help the kids at MTEF with tennis, education, and mentorship.
2. Help diversify the board of directors to improve creative thought, manage complex issues, better represent the communities we serve, and help improve revenue generation.
3. Work collaboratively with

Continued on Page 4

Game Won!

22nd Tennis Ball Exceeds Funding Expectations

The 22nd Annual MTEF Tennis Ball was scheduled for 2020. COVID19 intervened.

With the theme *Game On*, it was rescheduled for Nov. 6, 2021 at the Italian Community Center.

And what a game it turned out to be, drawing a crowd of about 260 and netting \$77,000 to support MTEF's programming.

The event, which turned out to be Game Won drew rave reviews for everything from the atmosphere to the food.

Not that there wasn't a bump or so in the road. With MTEF board president Kurt Janavitz sidelined by the cursed COVID bug, Mike Buckholdt, then the foundation's vice president, stepped in to hit an overhead with an overview of the organization since the last Ball in 2019.

In his remarks, Buckholdt noted that despite the pandemic, MTEF persevered to deliver its programming albeit in a modified format that included virtual sessions as well as in-person on-court activities that incorporated masks and social distancing.

In addition, he said, MTEF "on-boarded new staff and enhanced our collaboration with key partners such as Stryv365."

Continued on Page 8



Debbie Schaefer

Heather McSorley happily checked out some of the silent auction items at the MTEF Tennis Ball.

Inside

2 Executive Director's Message

3 Tennis Director's Message

6 Grants and Gifts

7 Become an MTEF Friend

10 A New Initiative

11 Meet Our Kids

MTEF Officers and Directors

President: Michael Buckholdt

Treasurer: Christopher Schifano

Secretary: Sarah Cyganiak

Assistant Secretary: Kim Kirkpatrick

Directors: Michael Buckholdt,

Mary Fran Cahill, Timon Corwin, Sarah Cyganiak,

Jeffrey Davis, Donna Drosner, Trevor D'Souza,

Elizabeth Horneffer, Kurt Janavitz, Mark Jensen,

John Kendler, Ian B. K. Martin, Charles Mulcahy,

Thomas O'Byrne, Frank Parker, Caran Quadracci,

Rajit Saluja, Denny Schackter, Christopher Schifano,

Michael Sperling, Gina Vecera, Frank Thometz,

Joanne Williams, Lisa Winders

Past Presidents

Charles Mulcahy (1975-2006)

David Pelisek (2006-2008)

Thomas O'Byrne (2008-2010)

Trevor D'Souza (2010-2012)

Michael Sperling (2012-2014)

Timon Corwin (2014-2016)

Elizabeth Horneffer (2016-2019)

Kurt Janavitz (2019-2021)

Advisory Board

John Austin, William Henk, Daniel O'Brien

MTEF Staff

Executive Director: Rachael Badt

Tennis Director: Antonio Broaden

Controller: Barbara Franzen

A Penny for Your Likes

Essential Tennis Ups Ante for MTEF

Ian Westermann is a local tennis pro who started his own business, Essential Tennis, as well as its YouTube channel to provide high-quality programming and instruction for players who are really passionate about their game.

Westermann, a longtime supporter of MTEF, recently came up with another way to show his support.

In August, he reached out to MTEF with an idea he had been thinking about for a while that would further show support for our organization. He proposed donating a penny for every like he gets on his videos per month and doing this for a few months.

In August alone, Essential Tennis donated more than \$150 just based on video likes and the love and support of the tennis community. Wow! And thank you!

Check out Westermann's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/EssentialTennis>. He tackles many important –and sometimes overlooked – points that can improve your tennis game.

Please help us spread the word on the amazing content that Westermann creates on YouTube and how engaging with his videos with a “like” can help to support MTEF's mission and programs!

Dropping a comment goes a long way as well!!



Westermann

Getting to Know You

New Executive Director Introduces Herself to Readers

Hello! My name is Rachael Badt and I am honored to be writing this message as the new executive director of the Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation.



Rachael Badt
Executive
Director's
Message

Right off the bat (or racquet) I am going to let you in on a little secret – I don't play tennis. At least not yet. But my husband and 6-year-old do...and Coach Tony promises to teach me.

My background is in event/program planning, marketing, and youth development.

My passion is systems and experiences. I like to give people opportunities for experiences that enhance and enrich their lives. Whether that is meeting your favorite singer (when I worked in radio), feeling the pride of planning and executing programs for their peers (when I worked in youth

leadership training), or learning a new skill that takes their tennis game to the next level.

Taking on this new role is exciting for me. I see this position as a unicorn – one that allows me to not only plan and execute programming that creates experience, but also one that lets me forward an important mission of improving the futures of Milwaukee's youth.

Over the last couple of months, I have spent time trying to understand the puzzle that is tennis in Milwaukee. The clubs, the instructors, who offers what, and how we all fit together. I won't lie and say it all makes sense. But it works. The best part about it is that we all support each other. Everyone feels passionate about tennis and the power it has to shape the lives of those who play it.

I thank you all for welcoming me into my new role and encourage you to reach out with thoughts, comments, suggestions, or just to say hi.

I look forward to building my relationship with each of you as together we build and grow MTEF.

Summer Substance

MTEF Camp Experience Extended Far Beyond Tennis

Run! Laugh! Catch! Smash! Focus! Encourage! Retreat! Build! Think! Decide! Act! Improve! Stop! Drop! Roll! Relax! Create! Learn! Read! B Skip! Recover! Assess! Discover! Motivate! Push! Spin! Imagine! Win!

All those many words came into play at MTEF's 2021 Summer Camp as youth from across the city came together at Merrill Park to learn and play the game of tennis and so much more!

Some of my favorite moments on court were seeing the kids taking a chance and trying out a new skill in various games and play and then learning through trial and error.

An instant classic on court this summer was *Champions of the Court* where everyone is a champion! It is a rally series that has nine levels for players to progress through.

Another classic was *Around the Globe in 80 Days* where players would race against time to complete a series of challenging stations. We had racket throwing stations, soccer ball control stations, tennis bowling stations, cone catching stations, downs and ups challenges and more — so much more! The challenges were limited only by the imaginations of the coaches and our players.

Other on-court classics included *Around the World, Defender, Up and Down the River* and *Risk!*

Overall though, summer camp with MTEF was and is more than just learning and playing tennis.

With the help of the coaches from Stryv365, our kids explored different ways to manage stress and learn how to respond to a situation instead of reacting emotionally.

Our participants also learned about nutrition — how to make healthy food choices and that food that is good for us can taste good too!

The camp also offered enrichment activities such as the egg drop challenge, roller skating and the Summer Olympics!

We continued our Mentor Mondays where a guest speaker would come by to engage and share with our youth. This year former president of the USTA Katrina Adams, Milwaukee Fire Chief Aaron Lipski, and Assistant District Attorney Anthony Jackson were among those taking part in the program!

We wrapped up the camp with the MTEF TEAM Cup tournament, an event that provides an opportunity for players from across the city to showcase their passion for tennis, use their new skills, make new friends and rivals!

The tournament winners were: **Mixed 18u:** 1st Israel Akinsanya, 2nd Sam Gagnier, 3rd Izayah Briggs, 4th Tony Truong. **Girls 16u:** 1st Marissa Jones, 2nd Ashai Bryant. **Boys 16u:** 1st Sam Gagnier, 2nd Izayah Briggs. **Girls 14u:** 1st Marissa Jones, 2nd Desiree Griggs. **Boys 14u:** 1st Sebastian Ordenez, 2nd Benjamin Kastenemeier. **Girls 12u:** 1st Lola Lenhart, 2nd Tahlia Melendes. **Boys 12u:** 1st Josiah Jacobs, 2nd Jacob Halaiko.

There were so many great moments this summer, it's hard to include them all.

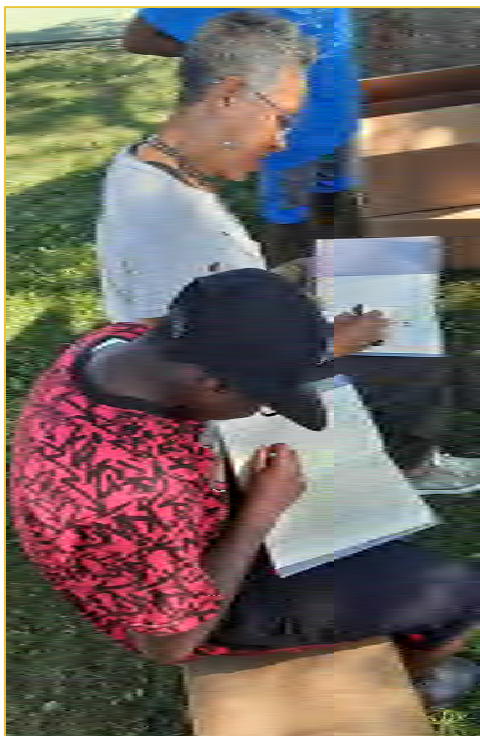
Check out all the action captured in pictures on our Facebook page.

Or visit our website, mtef.com, to check out the *Game On* video that debuted at the 2021 MTEF Tennis Ball.

Better yet, come join us next summer!



**Antonio
Broaden
Tennis
Director's
Message**



Mentor Mondays sessions included visits from Katrina Adams, who autographed copies of her book for summer camp participants (left) and Milwaukee Fire Chief Aaron Lipski, a fourth generation family member of the department.

MTEF Hires New Executive Director

Badt Brings Wide Ranging Experience to Her Role

MTEF is pleased to announce that Rachael Badt has taken over as the foundation's executive director, succeeding Julie Cordero in the post.

Badt comes to MTEF from BBYO Wisconsin, a chapter of a national not-for-profit Jewish youth group, where she had been senior regional director for the past 16 years. In this role she was responsible for "everything from soup to nuts," including operations, programming, fundraising, board management and financial management.

Prior to BBYO, Badt worked in marketing, promotions, sales and event planning for a variety of radio stations including 103.7 KISS-FM.

This varied leadership experience with children and complex, substantive programming will serve her well in her new role with MTEF.

Badt grew up in Mequon, the oldest of three children. She graduated from Homestead High School before heading to the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she earned a bachelor's degree with a double major in broadcast journalism and sociology along with a minor in Jewish studies.

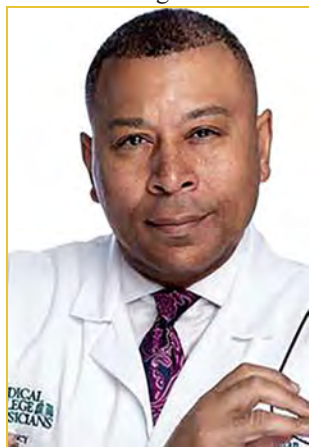
In her spare time, Badt said she enjoys on-line window shopping, taking walks with her husband and daughter and making photobooks.



Badt

Noted Emergency Physician Joins MTEF Board

Dr. Ian B.K. Martin was unanimously elected to MTEF's board of directors at the group's Nov. 23 meeting. Martin is system chairman of the department of emergency medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin. He also is emergency physician-in-chief of the Froedtert and Medical College of Wisconsin Health System. In addition, he serves on the City of Milwaukee board of health.



Martin

He received a bachelor of science degree from Duke University and an M.D. degree from what is now the Drexel University College of Medicine. In addition, Martin earned a master of business degree from the University of North Carolina.

Much of his academic career has been geared toward improving the delivery of emergency care globally

– with emphasis on East Africa – through program development, investigative research and direct clinical care. His research has included clarification of the best models for ER-based HIV and hepatitis C testing and acute care epidemiology in developing countries. He has been highly published in high-impact peer-reviewed medical journals.

His career accomplishments and honors are too many to list in this newsletter. Suffice it to say Martin is a stellar role model for the youngsters MTEF serves. (For more information, log on to: mcw.edu/departments/emergency-medicine/people/ian-martin-md-mba-facep.)

Martin is an avid fan of what he thinks "is the best lifelong sport: tennis."

He was captain of his high school's men's tennis team and played on Duke's JV team. He says he still plays as often as his schedule permits,

"As much as playing, I am a fan of attending tournaments," he said. "The US Open, the Citi Open and the Western and Southern Open are frequent stops for me each summer."

New President Outlines Goals for MTEF Progress on Funding for Dedicated Facility Included

From Page 1 the executive director to solidify and expand fundraising efforts.

4. Make progress in building a dedicated facility for MTEF

Buckholdt, who joined the board in 2018, is president and COO of Kinex Medical Company, a privately held

lasting medical equipment company. An accomplished leader and entrepreneur with more than 20 years experience in the healthcare industry, he has been serving as MTEF's vice president since 2019.

His academic background includes a master's degree in physical therapy and a bachelor's degree in psychology, both

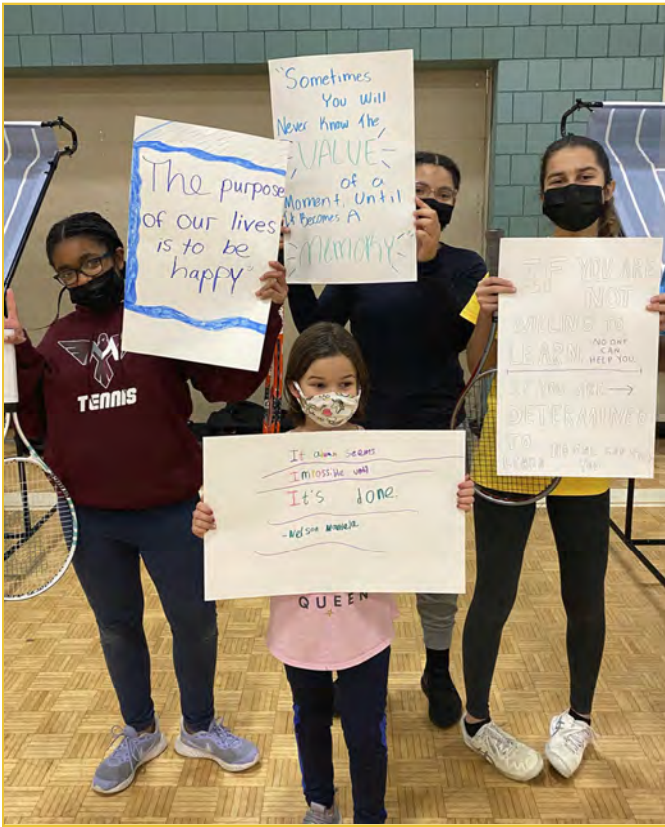
from Marquette University.

Re-elected as treasurer and secretary respectively were Christopher Schifano and Sarah Cyganiak.

Janavitz will become the foundation's immediate past president. A new vice president is expected to be elected in the near future.

Saying It With Signs

Story of Williams Sisters Rise to Stardom Motivates TEAM Kids



TEAM participants display the motivational signs they devised after seeing the movie *King Richard*.

Who is the man behind the greats? What role did he play in the creation of Venus and Serena Williams' tennis superstardom?

What does the story of the Williams sisters and the father who molded them teach a young player today about resilience and motivation?

Those were just some of the questions we were looking to answer when MTEF hosted our own private screening of the movie *King Richard* for our participants and their families.

More than 60 people gathered in the theater at Marcus Menomonee Falls to see the movie. Together we laughed and cheered.

The next day, at TEAM tennis Coach Tony and the group discussed their favorite moments from the movie and what kept the Williams girls motivated.

In one scene, those watching could see the girls setting up their court for practice. As it progressed, Venus and Serena hung a variety of signs around to motivate them. One example was: YOU are a WINNER and if you fail to plan, plan to fail.

Coach Tony found it so cool that the Williams sisters had their own sayings to stay motivated and positive! So, he asked the MTEF kids to each come with a motivational saying of their own, then handed out poster board and markers so the youngsters could hang up their own during TEAM practices – thus taking the movie and making it a moment of personal enrichment.

If you haven't seen the movie yet, MTEF gives it a racquet up and recommends watching it.

A big thank you to the Marcus Corporation for helping alleviate some of the cost of this experience and Bader Philanthropies for allowing us to provide new and different experiences for our kids.

It's All About the 'Tude

The current motto of the 50-person MTEF TEAM program is *Attitude is Everything*. We've even got new shirts to remind us of it.

Our players learn that what happens on the court is just as much about what you are thinking and feeling as your skill level.

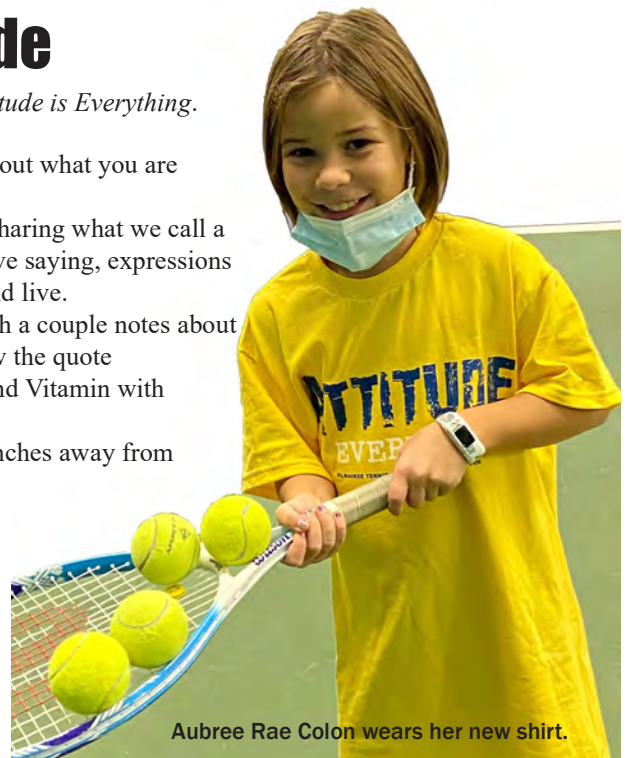
Every Sunday before the TEAM players hit the court, we start by sharing what we call a Mind Vitamin with the participants. Mind vitamins are different creative saying, expressions or quotes that are used to get them thinking about the way they play and live.

The youngsters then write them in their tennis notebooks along with a couple notes about what it means to them. We share these thoughts as a group and see how the quote incorporates into the work we are doing. We also share the weekly Mind Vitamin with families so they can discuss it together.

We started our Mind Vitamin share with the quote: "You are four inches away from being a great player. That's the distance from your left ear to your right ear."

This saying can be interpreted in many ways but what it means to TEAM is that greatness is more than our height, athletic ability, or current level. The thing that makes a player great is their mind and the attitude they carry with them!

Do you have a great quote that keeps you motivated on or off the court? Send it our way at info@mtef.com and we will share it with our participants.



Aubree Rae Colon wears her new shirt.

Grants and Gifts

Grants

Anonymous Charitable Trust
Bader Philanthropies
First Midwest Bank
Greater Milwaukee Association of Realtors
Youth Foundation
Milwaukee Public Schools
USTA
USTA Foundation
USTA/Midwest Section
USTA Midwest Tennis & Education
Foundation

Corporate

Amazon Smiles Foundation
GE Foundation
United Way of Greater Milwaukee and
Waukesha County
USB

Government

Small Business Administration

Individual

Anonymous
Robert Abendroth
Rachael and Marty Badt
Charities Aid Foundation America
Robert Deiss
George and Anna Clair Gaspar
Genie Gengler Charitable Foundation
John Haburjak
Hal Horneffer
Kim and David Irwin
Kurt and Kari Janavitz
Marjorie Kozlowski
Aaron Larson
Monica Mark
Chas and Judy Mulcahy

Angela Orentas
Joseph Pabst
Mary Ann and Mark Picard
Paul Spencer
Emily van Dunk
Nick Vedder
David Werner
Arlene Wesson
Ian Westermann
Joanne Williams
Pickleball & Tennis Fundraiser
Mary Fran Cahill
Sarah Cyganiak
Brad and Joanne Davidson
Jeffrey Davis and Rachel Schneider
Scott Davis
Donna Drosner and Jeff Pink
Brian Ellenbecker
Patty Fronberry
Karen Hill
Beth and Mark Horneffer
Lisa Kennedy
David Larsen
Jack Larsen
John Larsen
Janet and Rusty Long
Michael Lynch
Therese Lynott
Ian Martin
Lisa Rios
Denny Schackter and Patti Lock
Debbie and Chris Schifano
Mary Elizabeth Schroeder
Mike Sperling and Peggy Kirkeeng
Gary Taxman
Richard Vincent
Blair Wangman

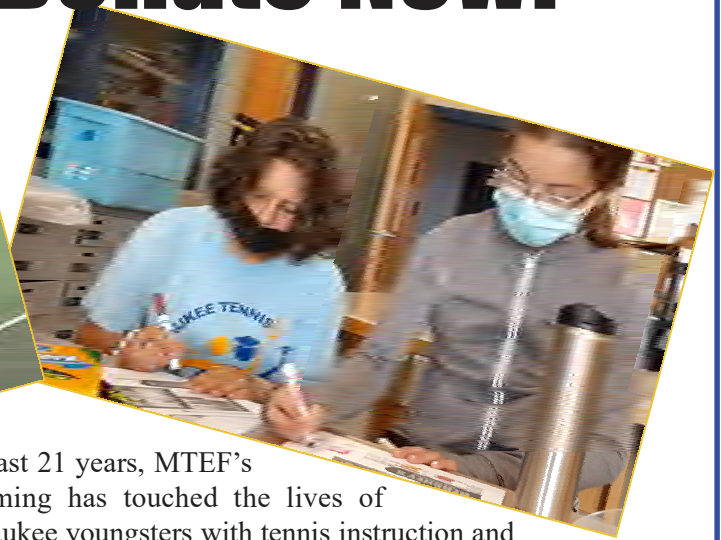
Brian Wilson
Peggy Yang
Kay and Richard Yuspeh
In honor of Donna Drosner
Jodi Ristau
In honor of Essential Tennis
John Haberjak
Ian Martin
In honor of Rev. Rob Fredrickson
Donna Parshalle
In honor of Susie Fondrie
Arlene Wesson
In honor of Beth Horneffer
Hal Horneffer
In honor of Brian Sikorski
Monica Mark
In memory of Robert Auxer
Mary Fran Cahill
Hurvis/ADAMM Education Foundation
Milwaukee Tennis Classic, Inc.
Chas and Judy Mulcahy
In memory of Herbert D. Hentzen, Jr.
Robert Abendroth
Ott and Gaby Brentener
Micahel and Karin Buckholdt
Mary Fran Cahill
Julie Cordero
Sarah Cyganiak
Frank and Linda Gonzales
Beth and Mark Horneffer
Kurt and Kari Janavitz
Chas and Judy Mulcahy
Tom and Susie O'Byrne
Donna Parshalle
Denny Schackter and Patti Lock
Jacqueline and Way Thompson



Ensure the future
of tennis, education and mentoring
for Milwaukee's youth by naming
the Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation
(EIN: 39-1317061) in your will or estate plan.

To learn more,
contact your financial advisor.

Be a Friend! Donate Now!



Over the past 21 years, MTEF's programming has touched the lives of more than 40,000 underserved Milwaukee youngsters with tennis instruction and mentoring plus academics, life skills and fitness/nutrition education.

For many years, the USTA Foundation has designated MTEF as a 4-Star NJTL chapter – one of only 25 out of more than 250 in the entire United States. MTEF was recognized as the National NJTL Chapter of the Year in 2006 and the Midwest NJTL Chapter of the Year in 2004, 2005 and 2009 and the national No. 2 First Serve chapter in 2010.

MTEF programs are possible because of the generosity of Friends in our community — people like you, who help us sustain and grow our programming. You can make a big difference in a child's life with your gift of any size.

Donations can be made online at mtef.com/donate or mail this form with your check or credit card information. Friends will be recognized in the next issue of *The Match*. Here are some ways you can help:

Program Sponsorships

- ☐ Summer Programming
 - ☐ Merrill Park
 - ☐ Brown Deer
 - ☐ Sherman Park
- ☐ Year-round TEAM
- ☐ Tutors/Education
- ☐ Scholarships
 - ☐ Herbert D. Hentzen, Jr. Scholarship
 - ☐ General Scholarship

Area of Greatest Need

☐ Please use my donation wherever it is most needed.

Volunteers

Another way to be a Friend is to donate your time.

Projects/areas of need are:

- ☐ IT/Website
- ☐ Data Input/Analysis
- ☐ Committee Interest
- (Tennis Ball, Media, Fundraising, Program etc.)
- ☐ Mentor

To Donate Now

Copy this page. Make your choice(s) from the list above, fill in the information below and mail this page to:

MTEF, 3000 N. Sherman Blvd., Milwaukee, WI 53210. Make checks payable to MTEF.

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Amount: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ ZIP code: _____ Email: _____
Credit Card: MasterCard Visa
Number: _____ Expiry: ____/____ Validation: _____ Signature: _____

Or log onto www.mtef.com and click on *Donate* or *Get Involved*. Donations are fully tax-deductible.

Ball Did Not Disappoint

From Page 1 The staff, he said, “creatively tapped into government and foundation resources to stabilize MTEF’s financial reserves.”

MTEF’s board and other supporters also rose to the occasion, Buckholdt said, also rose to the occasion with “remarkable financial support,” including an anonymous donor who came forward with unexpected scholarship and hardship funds for deserving program participants.

Buckholdt also noted the passing of a longtime board member, Herbert D. Hentzen, Jr. and announced that a scholarship is being established to continue Hentzen’s legacy as a friend and mentor. “Herb gave decades of time, money and energy to the organization and helped make MTEF what it is today,” he said.

In his remarks, Honorary Chair Anthony Jackson credited his parents for introducing him and his two older sisters to the sport of tennis and instilling the kid of value system that would provide them with opportunities.

His father, he said, grew up on a farm in the South, attending segregated schools. His mother, he continued, grew up in Milwaukee, in the Rufus King High School neighborhood. Neither grew up playing tennis, eventually discovering the sport on courts in Shorewood. His father, he said, developed a love for the sport, which he passed along to his children – along with “the value of hard work, the value of service and humility.”

“The lessons I’ve learned through tennis, I continue to apply today,” Jackson said. “Some of these lessons MTEF teaches to the kids today.”

The lessons, he said, include integrity/sportsmanship, being prepared and resiliency. He continues to apply these values as a Milwaukee assistant city attorney.

Izayah Briggs and Maurice Terry current MTEF participants both spoke about the fun but even more importantly the life skills they learn from participating in TEAM.

“Since participating in tennis I feel more confident,” Terry said. “I have learned how to be more patient. Tennis has taught me how



Debbie Schaefer

Patti Lock helped Hal Horneffer with his choice at the Wine Pull tent.

to be respectful and get along with others. I have learned to listen to my coaches and receive constructive criticism. Tennis makes me feel better about myself.”

The Tennis Ball wouldn’t be the Tennis Ball without a sumptuous spread of delicious food and an array of tasty beverages. On this count, there was a consensus that the ICC, whose kitchen is run by the Bartolotta Restaurant Group, did not disappoint.

Neither did the evening’s emcee and live auctioneer, TMJ4 sportscaster Lance Allan, who kept the evening upbeat with his trademark energy and enthusiasm through the auction, paddle raise and up-down raffle.

The 23rd Annual MTEF Tennis Ball is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 12, 2022. It again will be held at the Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St.

Tennis Ball Sponsors and Supporters

Sponsors

Premier Match

Caran and Joel Quadracci

Set

Robert W. Baird & Co.

Kurt and Kari Janavitz.

Game

Heartland Advisors

Forecourt

Mary Fran Cahill

Stryv 365

Trimble Family Foundation

Backcourt

ADVENT

Benefit Service Group

Dan Blong – First Trust

Mike and Karin Buckholdt

Sara Cyganiak

David J. Frank Landscaping

Beth and Mark Horneffer

Hal Horneffer

Mark and Kari Jensen

Jodi and Pat Keller

MCW Department of Emergency

Medicine

Morgan McCreary

Chas and Judy Mulcahy/Al

Hurvis/ADAMM Ed. Foundation

O’Byrne Distribution Centers

Pleasant Valley Tennis Club

Product Accessibility

Chris and Debbie Schifano

Mike Sperling and Peggy Kirkeeng

Wisconsin Athletic Clubs

Kay and Richard Yuspeh

Point

Debra and Moshe Katz

Network Health

Riverwater. LLC

Sherry and Jon Termuehlen

Lisa Winders

Amy and Edward Zosel

Auctions

Live

Jeff and Angela Dubofsky

Quad

Caran and Joel Quadracci

The Tennis Channel

USTA

Western Racquet Club/John Bonfiglio

Silent

Babolot/Steve Buccellato

Mike and Kari Buckholdt

Mary Fran Cahill

Ben and Gina DeBruin

Jeff and Angela Dubofsky

Donna Drosner

Eagle Park Brewery

Barclay Ferguson

David J. Frank Landscaping, Inc.

Tennis Ball Sponsors and Supporters

Green Bay Packers
Julie and Jeff Gunderson
Thomas and Debra Hitchcock
Marcus Hotels and Resorts
Marquette University High School
Tennis Parents
Betty Mathison
Miami Open
Milwaukee Brewers
MTEF
Orangetheory Fitness - Mequon
Palermo's Pizza
Caran Quadracci
Rena and Tony Ragonese
Renaissance Milwaukee West
Rocky Rococo Restaurants
Kendra Scott
Denny Schacter and Patti Lock
Therese and Paul Stockhausen
USTA Midwest Section
Rick Vetter
Faye's/Faye Wetzel
Yonex/Sean Albrecht

Up/Down Paddle

Flanner's (65" Sony TV)

Wine Pull

Frank Liquor
MTEF Board of Directors

Supporters

1840 Brewing Co.
Anonymous
Lance and Amy Allan
Louella Amos

Kim and Karen Anderson
Jesse Bauwens
Elizabeth Benz
Kelly and Dan Blong
Julie and John Bonfiglio
Judy and David Coran
Julie Cordero
Trevor and Maureen D'Souza
Mary and Joe DaVanti
Jeff Davis and Rachel Schneider
Michel Deubel
Katelin Davis
Dale Egan
Brian Ellenbecker
Pat Felton
Heather Ferber
Andrea and Barclay Ferguson
Jennifer Fleck

Jane Frank
Jacci and John Gambucci
Ann Glor
Maureen and Michael Goetz
Bill Gomilla
Kathy and Clark Gridley
Rob Haderlein
Cody Hallowell
Pam and Todd Hammond
Law Offices of Michael Hayes
Donna and Jack Hill
Debbie Hitchcock
Ashley Hundt
Anthony Jackson
Nicole Jackson
Sharon and Leonard Jackson
Patricia Jensen
Greer Jordan

Tennis Ball Committee

Julie Cordero, Timon Corwin, Beth Horneffer,
Kurt Janavitz, Mark Jensen, Jodi Keller, Patti Lock,
Morgan McCreary, Caran Quadracci, Denny Schackter,
Chris Schifano, Gina Vecera, Dianne Veenendaal

Honorary Chair: Anthony Jackson

Emcee/Auctioneer: Lance Allan

Food and Beverage: Bartolotta Restaurant Group

Centerpieces: Dianne Veenendaal

Video: Ethan Danz

Registration volunteers: Kelsey Tolar, Stef Sager

Kristi and Mano Kehoss
Jodi and Pat Keller
John and Martha Kendler
Andrea and Jeff Kleczka
Heidi and Patrick Kohler
Philip Krull
Julie and Bob Leibham
Linda Gorens-Levey and Michael
Levey
Steve and Lisa Lyons
Amy and Nate Marshall
Keith and Maryhelen Martens
Kate Ansay McCain
Heather McSorley
Colin McWey
Kevin McWey
Lauren and Brad Mestan

Continued on Next Page



Debbie Schaefer

The 22nd Annual MTEF Tennis Ball drew a crowd of more than 250 to the Italian Community Center

Tennis Ball Sponsors and Supporters

David Milia
Jasna Miller
Odom Mitchell
Caroline Moering
Peggy and Mike Munnagle
Pat Murphy
Ray O'Connor
Dave and Mindy Pelisek
Gertrude and Frank Pletcher
Hassan Rahim
Carol and Dennis Reilly
Becky and Mark Riebeschl
Belinda and Jeff Russell
Sushil and Ethel Sabnis

Katrina Saffold
Rajit and Jyoti Saluja
Debbie Schaefer
Andrea and Rodd Schneider
Kate and Will Shoyer
Judith and Robert Scott
Ivana and Marko Selak
Stuti Shankar
Igor Shusterman
Sara and David Sinese
Jessica Snyder
Eldon Swenson
Jim and Sherry Tolkan
Tyler Trimble

Chris Urban
Gina and Dave Vecera
Diane and Carl Veenendaal
Richard Vicent
Erich Weidenbener
Jodi and Greg Wait
Keith Weller
Carolyn and Scott Wille
Joanne Williams
Lisa and John Wilson
Lisa Winders and Ryan Bingham
Trica and Steve Wollersheim
Erica and Erik Zipp

On the Circuit

New Initiative Focuses on Athletic Abilities



A TEAM participant hits balls against a portable backboard.

You don't always need a tennis court to grow your tennis skills! With this in mind, MTEF recently initiated a circuit-style training program, led by Coach Tony, that meets Tuesdays from 5:30-7 p.m., in the gym at the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center.

Designed to improve their athletic abilities and tennis skills, the initiative engages TEAM participants in a variety of exercises focusing on strength, movement, agility, stability and coordination — all of which are essential to enhancing on-court performance.

One secret to getting better is to practice, practice, practice. Thus, a variety of stations are set up in the gym so the kids can log more reps. The circuit also gives participants a chance to slow down, self-evaluate and tune in to the process of getting better, while not having to focus so much on the outcome.

Some stations include hitting groundstrokes off rebound walls. Others work on the linear pushing motion of volleys using cones and volleying upside down. Passing footballs helps kids work on serves and overheads and, who knows, may by turn them into starting quarterbacks as well. And there's more — so much more!

One of the great things about these sessions is that they bring together players of different ages who are in different stages of their tennis journey and provide them with the opportunity to work with and learn from each other.

Have you ever seen a 9-year-old teach a 14-year-old how to volley? It's pretty cool to watch!

MTEF feels that if we can get the kids to have fun and enjoy the process of getting better, then nothing can get in their way!

Pickleball Fundraiser Brings in \$3,200

There was a chill wind blowin' but the court action was hot when MTEF staged its first Pickleball & Tennis summer fundraiser on Sept. 13.

The event, at North Shore Country Club in Mequon, was the brainchild of board member Mike Sperling.

According to Sperling, attendance was 51, including 18 people who played pickleball and 18 who played tennis.

Pickleball is fast-rising game in the United States. For those unfamiliar with pickleball, it's a fast-paced fun sport played on a small court, about the size



of a badminton court. Players use paddles rather than racquets to hit a small, hard plastic ball. In essence, it melds some elements of badminton, tennis and paddle tennis.

The event, which ended with a delicious appetizer buffet and beverages, raised about \$3,200. The sum included \$650 from an auction of four tickets, donated at the event by Kay and Richard Yuspeh, to Miley Cyrus' Summerfest concert at the American Family Insurance Amphitheater.

Stay tuned as it's possible that Pickleball & Tennis may become an annual fundraising event for MTEF.

Meet Our Kids

Met Our Kids features young people involved in MTEF's year-around TEAM (Tennis, Education and Mentoring) programming.

Dean Savage Moy
7th Grade
Bayview Montessori



Dean has been participating in TEAM for a year and a half. His favorite thing about MTEF is playing tennis. His goal is to keep improving his game so he will be able to play on his high school team.

Dean's favorite color is bright green.

His favorite season is spring, "cause it's not too hot and not too cold."

Baana Yohannes
4th Grade
Brown Deer Elementary



Baana has been involved in MTEF programming since last year.

Her favorite thing about MTEF is the fun she has playing with her teammates.

Baana's favorite color is blue.

Her favorite superhero is Flash.

Serve & Connect Day Back at Sherman Park



A group of Serve & Connect Day participants gathered for a photo on the Sherman Park tennis courts.

No doubt about it, 2021 was a year that presented us with a lot of challenges: a global pandemic, economic strife, social unrest and criminal-justice reform are just a few of the issues we all have had to tackle. Most Wisconsinites agree that these challenges have made our country and our communities feel more divided.

In an attempt to address some of the division within the Sherman Park Community, where MTEF has had its home for many years, we hosted our second Serve & Connect Day on May 22.

The goal of Serve & Connect is to bring together those who serve as first responders with community members and MTEF youth to build trust, cultivate new relationships, and establish effective community safety partnerships.

The day began with 20 youngsters, Milwaukee police officers and firefighters cleaning up Sherman Park.

MTEF parents, Stryv 365 staff, and MTEF board members assisted with the cleanup. Leaves, debris and trash were removed from the tennis courts, basketball courts, baseball field and

surrounding areas.

After enjoying lunch together under the beautiful sunshine, MTEF youngsters took on eight tennis players from the Milwaukee Fire and Police Departments in some friendly competition on the park's courts.

For those who aren't familiar, tennis is the perfect sport to bring people together. It can be enjoyed by those of all ages. Tennis gets the body moving and the brain thinking, which is good for mind, body and spirit. Partners must communicate and work together to achieve a common goal.

MTEF Tennis Director Antonio Broaden kept everyone moving and smiling with various games, drills and challenges on each court.

While the police and firefighters were all incredibly fit and very competitive, let's just say that the MTEF players held their own just fine. On May 22, Sherman Park felt vibrant, fun and safe. Members of the community took notice and were so appreciative.

MTEF can continue building on these relationships and do our own small part to make Milwaukee safer, healthier and happier for all.

Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation
Attn: Rachael Badt
3000 N. Sherman Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MILWAUKEE, WI
PERMIT #1034



**PLAY TENNIS?
WANNA HAVE FUN &
CHANGE LIVES?**

**TENNIS
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE
PAID POSITIONS ALSO AVAILABLE

WWW.MTEF.COM/VOLUNTEER21



Save the Date

**23RD
ANNUAL
TENNIS
BALL**

**SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 12, 2022**