



The Match

Fall 2023

www.mtef.com



Linsey Kimmel Photography

One Word Describes Summer Camp

Awesome!

What's a little wildfire smoke? Or a few days with the kind of sizzle that makes you feel like a skewer on the grill?

Throw a couple daunting downpours that hardly dampened a drought-parched landscape into the mix and you'd think it had to have been the worst summer ever!

Not so. Just a few bumps in the road that led the 2023 Summer Camp to become one of the most awesome ever!

You'll find what made it so special by turning to Page 3.

Drills played a major role during the 2023 Summer Camp. this one took place at Rainbow Day Camp in Fredonia.

The Countdown Is On

24th MTEF Tennis Ball's Rising on the Horizon

It's time to put the pencil to the calendar and make a note that the MTEF Tennis Ball returns to the Italian Community Center, 631 E. Chicago St., for its 24th edition on Saturday, Nov. 4!

It makes no difference if you're adding the event to a classic paper calendar or the electronic version that you keep on your computer, this is an evening that puts the fun in fundraising and you don't want to miss it! Tables tend to fill up fast, so make your reservations as soon as you can to make sure you have a spot at the event.

The good news is there's no inflation factor involved! This year's prices are the same as 2022. Sponsorships range from \$500 to \$10,000, while individual tickets are available for \$150.

It's easy to make reservations online. Just visit mtef.com/tb23.

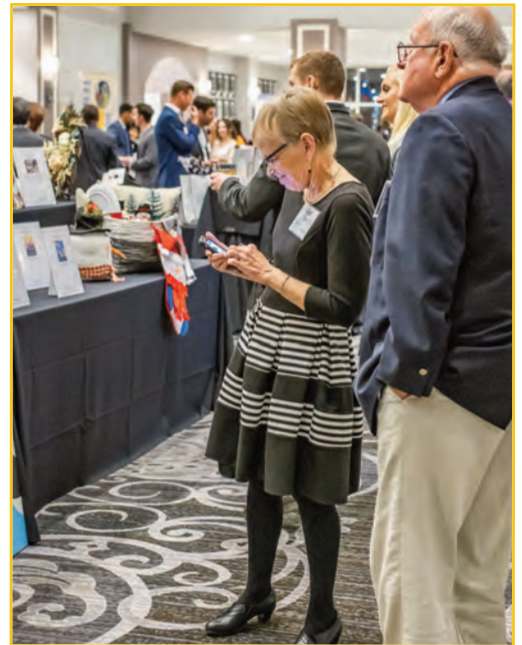
The festivities begin at 6 p.m. with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, wine pull and so much more, including the basket challenge ball toss, which was introduced last year.

Speaking of hors d'oeuvres, there'll be a new one on the platter this year – one that's especially appropriate in Wisconsin. But our lips are sealed. You'll just have to come to the party to discover what it is.

Also new this year: If you want a video souvenir to post on your social media, EventSpark Productions' 360 Photo Booth will be there to record it. It won't be just a snapshot. For this innovative experience, the camera spins around you as you pose or perform on a circular platform.

You don't have to wonder if the gourmet dinner that follows will be delicious. It's being catered by Bartolatta Restaurant Group, which brings

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Deb Schaefer

Beth and Roger Stafford planned their bids at the 2022 MTEF Tennis Ball.

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MTEF Officers and Directors

President: Michael Buckholdt

Vice President: Jeffrey Davis

Treasurer: Christopher Schifano

Directors: Earl Arms, Sean Bailey, Michael Buckholdt, Mary Fran Cahill, Timon Corwin, Trevor D'Souza, Jeffrey Davis, Donna Drosner, Brian Ellenbecker, Makda Fessahaye, Elizabeth Horneffer, Kurt Janavitz, Mark Jensen, Ted Jordan, John Kendler, Jodi Keller, Ian Martin, Charles Mulcahy, Thomas O'Byrne, Caran Quadracci, Rajit Saluja, Denny Schackter, Christopher Schifano, Michael Sperling, Vukasin Teofamovic, Gina Vecera, 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: Dusan Medan

Controller: Ann Keenan

Davis Elected Vice President

Jeffrey Davis, who has been a member of the MTEF board since 2013, was elected the foundation's vice president at the board's June 8 meeting.

An avid tennis player, Davis has been a practicing attorney for more than 30 years as an associate and partner with Quarles & Brady.

He was appointed as a judge to the Wisconsin Court of Appeals in 2019 to succeed Brian Hagedorn following Hagedorn's election to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. He served in the post until 2021, when he was defeated seeking election to a full six-year term.

Davis graduated from Miami University in 1984 and Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 1987.

In addition to his career as an attorney, he has been a lecturer and adjunct professor of law at Marquette University Law School.

From 2007 to 2009, was an elected village trustee in Fox Point.



Davis

Tennis Humor

Q: Which tennis tournament never closes?

A: The US Open.

Q: Why aren't fish good at tennis?

A: They don't like getting close to the net.

At Season's End

By Any Measure, Summer 2023 Was a Success

Is it really time to head back to school? Really? Wasn't it just yesterday we were getting ready for the summer? Hard to fathom it's already behind us! But it is.



Rachael Badt
Executive
Director's
Message

While I'm sad that summer programming is over, I'm thrilled to report that MTEF had an amazing 2023 summer! A lot of this issue of *The Match* is devoted to what made it so special, so I won't go into a lot of details here.

Do let me say that it's incredible to see our tennis community continue to grow in size and skill year after year. This year we served more than 140 unique players across our multiple programs.

I am so grateful to Dusan and our incredible summer coaching staff for their hard work and dedication to making this summer one of the best for our youth. Their tireless efforts and commitment to providing top-notch programming and experiences for our campers did not go unnoticed. We are extremely thankful for all they do to make sure we create a

safe and positive environment where our campers can grow and thrive both on and off the court. Yay, team!!!

I'm even more excited to share that many of our summer coaches are staying in town this school year. They'll be part of the year-round coaching team, which will provide some amazing continuity for our programming.

Our TEAM (Tennis, Education and Mentoring) school year session will kick off in mid-September and is set to be bigger than ever with close to 70 kids taking advantage of this year-round offering. That's up from about 55 last year.

As fall makes way to winter, we will bring our Little Tennis Libraries inside and start to plan for next year. I am so proud of this new initiative and how it is making tennis more accessible in Milwaukee. We hope to add more locations next summer.

I would be amiss if I didn't note that everything MTEF does would not be possible without the support of friends like you. I hope that the stories in this newsletter and our e-newsletters help you to see your money in action.

I look forward to greeting those who can join us at the Tennis Ball on Nov. 4. See you soon!

Reflections on an Awesome Summer

And the Winners Are...

8-10 Co-Ed

North

1st: Dax Santana

2nd: Julius Giese

South

1st: Emerson Koestler

2nd: Claire Evert

10-12 Co-Ed

North

1st: Carl Klein

2nd: Elizabeth Klein

South

1st: Henry LaLuzerne

2nd: Casey Heu

12-14 Co-Ed

1st: Eliana Wischer

2nd: Trevin Wischer

14-16 Co-Ed

1st: Nolan Johnson

2nd: Charley Heu

Consolation: Massimo Ordonez

16-18 Co-Ed

1st: Ben Kastenmeier

2nd: Marissa Jones



If you want to play competitive tennis, you need to be in shape so calisthenics was a part of MTEF's Summer Camp activities.

Summer Showdown

When you've spent the summer honing your tennis skills, it's not surprising that the season ends with a little competition.

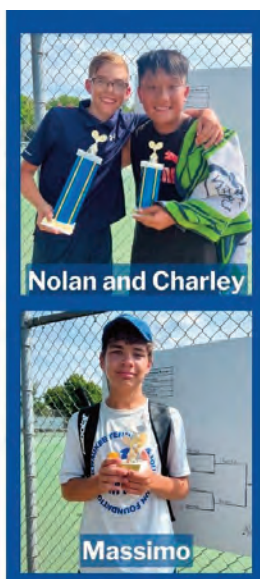
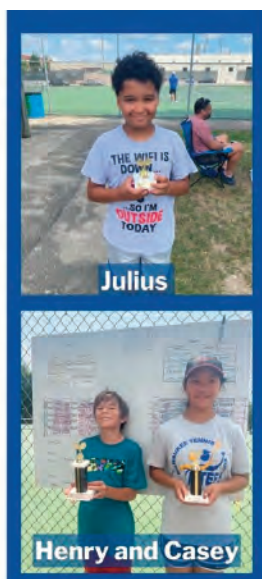
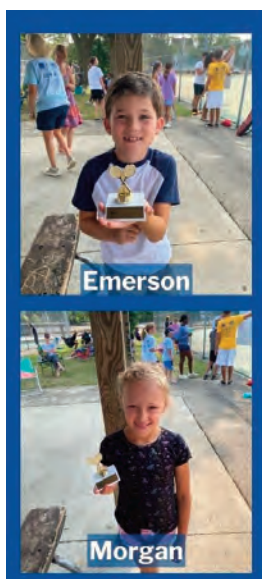
That came to pass when MTEF hosted its 2023 Summer Showdown, July 31-August 3 at Merrill Park.

The tournament was a series of single day events with each day featuring a different division of play.

This year there were five divisions, all co-ed, based on age.

It was great to see the players put their skills to use, realizing that for many Summer Showdown was their first tournament – *ever!*

Congratulations to all of them for their courage and ambition to compete.



Reflections on an Awesome Summer

Enrichment



Maya (left) and Lyla Burton displayed the tennis ball tower they built at this year's Summer Camp.

MTEF's Summer Tennis Camp offers more than just tennis. Every day, campers also participate in off-court programming.

This year, they explored their creativity with a variety of art projects such as canvas painting, tie-dyeing hats, beading and creating straw mosaics. They also challenged their problem-solving skills with origami, tennis-ball-tower building and tested their engineering skills with an egg-drop challenge.

They expanded their minds with our friends from STRYV365 learning new skills to cope with issues on and off the court.

To enhance our programming, MTEF also brought in special guests such as Embody Yoga and Paul Merkin with *Cartooning Is Fun*. Ms. Kim and her *Amazing Animals* visited as well and gave our campers the chance to touch and hold an array of incredible creatures – including some they thought they were afraid of.

MTEF is very proud of our campers for trying new things and taking on these new off-court experiences with passion. We hope that these experiences will foster a love of learning and creativity that will stay with them for years to come!



Antonio Colon made friends with a snake — one of Miss Kim's *Amazing Animals*.

Rainbow Day Camp

For the second year in a row, our Merrill Park campers had a terrific time at the Albert & Ann Deshur JCC Rainbow Day Camp in Fredonia!

They had a blast playing tennis and exploring all the camp's offerings — including fishing, archery, gaga ball and boating, as well as swimming every day.

The escape from the city was a welcome change for our participants, who were able to immerse themselves in nature and make new friends.

We are grateful to RDC, its directors, Lenny Kass and Shelby Elias, as well as all our friends at the Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center for their continued partnership and support.

We hope to continue providing opportunities for our campers to explore new interests and activities as we look forward to seeing what the future holds for our partnership with RDC.

Rainbow Day Camp was an exciting opportunity for summer participants to experience activities such as tennis, dodgeball and swimming in a relaxing rural setting.



Linsey Kimmel Photography



Reflections on an Awesome Summer

Little Tennis Libraries



MTEF is happy to report that the first season of our Little Tennis Libraries initiative was a huge success!

The initiative, which aimed to make tennis accessible to everyone by providing free tennis equipment at community tennis courts, was warmly received by the community and saw continued usage.

The Little Tennis Libraries, which were stocked with tennis balls and racquets for anyone to borrow and play with, were located seven playfields throughout the city.

The program was so popular that the balls always needed to be restocked.

A huge shout out to Steve and Marla Frydman (parents of our executive director, Rachael Badt) and Rachael herself for driving around town keeping the libraries stocked and organized.

The Little Tennis Libraries are part of the MTEF mission to promote tennis in the community and make it accessible to everyone, regardless of socioeconomic status.

We believe that tennis is a sport that can bring people together and provide valuable physical and mental benefits and we are delighted to see the positive impact the Little Tennis Libraries are having on the community.

We look forward to continuing this program next year and expanding its reach to even more courts.

With this in mind, we are in need of more tennis racquets and grips for the libraries. If you have any you are willing to donate please contact us at info@mt ef.com or call or text (414) 442-8195.

A Special Summer

New Tennis Director Reminisces and Looks Forward

Fifteen years ago, during my playing times at Marquette University, I was introduced to the Milwaukee Tennis & Education Foundation. That gave me an opportunity to learn about the MTEF program and participate in its clinics and Pro/Am events.

About six months ago, after talking to Board President Mike Buckholdt, Executive Director Rachael Badt, and Vukasin Teofanovic, a board member – who all shared their vision and passion for the organization – I was excited to accept the position as MTEF's tennis director.

Today, as we approach the end of the summer, I am thrilled to reflect on the journey we have undertaken together.

It has been a summer filled with passion, dedication and, most importantly, the love of tennis!

First and foremost, I want to extend my gratitude to all our dedicated staff and volunteers as well as the entire MTEF community for their support. Without your commitment, none of our achievements would have been possible.

My first summer as tennis director was special in many ways.

A top highlight was the continued growth of our youth programs and participation.

With Tiny Tots tennis lessons, six weeks of Summer Camp (with more than 140 kids participating), Girls' Skill & Drill class, our super popular adult classes and the new Little Tennis Libraries, we were able to reach more children and adults than ever before.

In addition, I found it was truly heartwarming to witness the positive impact tennis can have on young lives – not just as a sport but also as a tool for their personal growth and their development.

Looking ahead, we have exciting plans in mind.

Building on this summer's momentum, we will work to expand our outreach even further through our TEAM program.

We look forward to providing multiple tennis and education opportunities per week during the school year, as well as exploring partnerships with local schools and MKE Rec Department.

I am really excited that interest in our TEAM program is extremely high and look forward to diving deeper into tennis development and mentorship for our most committed participants.

I hope to meet all of you at the 24th MTEF Tennis Ball on Nov. 4.

The Ball is not just about tennis; it is about coming together to support a cause that has the power to transform lives.

Together, we are making a difference through tennis, education and community engagement.



Dusan Medan
Tennis
Director's
Message

Grants and Gifts

Grants

Anon Charitable Trust
Greater Milwaukee Association
of Realtors Youth Foundation
Harri Hoffman Family Foundation
Kelben Foundation
RA Stevens Family Foundation
Service Club of Milwaukee
The Frieda and William Hunt
Memorial Trust
USTA Foundation
WE Energies
Whitefish Bay Women's Club
Wisconsin Tennis Association

Corporate

AmazonSmiles Foundation
US Bank
UBS

Individual

Rob and Patricia Bortz
Dezarae Jones-Hartwig
Mary Ann and Mark Picard
Melody Ratney
Chris and Debbie Schifano
Mike Sperling and Peggy Kirkeeng –
In memory of Beverly Larsen
Steven Vitale – *In honor of Dr. Joseph
Stiglitz*
Nancy Zawacki – *In honor of Sonja
Pupovac's retirement from SMHS*

Spring Campaign

Ian Amundson
Lindsey Ashenden
Liya Assefa
Rachael and Marty Badt
Devin Balistreri
Logan Berens
Audrey Blanke
Bradley Brin
Elaine Burke
Jason Butler
Mary Fran Cahill
Thomas and Francesca Carswell
Susan and Karl Castello
Timon and Rachel Corwin
Jon and Liz Cyganiak
Sarah Cyganiak
Katie Dahm

Jeffrey Davis and Rachel Schneider
Sallie and Don Davis
Michele and Derek Deubel
Steven DeVougas
Cecilia Diedrich
Donna Drosner and Jeff Pink
Jessica Edward
Ann Eisenbrown
Brian and Rebecca Ellenbecker
Sara Eskrich
Evergreen Property Management
Lauren Feaster
Makda Fessehayee
Jeff Frank
Susan Freeman
Peggy Giles
Brian Gilpin
Johnathan Good
Aimee and Tom Halquist
Sarah and Jerry Hardacre
Kristen Hardy
Ann Harrington
Thomas Hester
Jennifer Higgins
Jack and Donna Hill
Sharon and Michael Hipp
Cindy and Paul Hoff
Beth and Mark Horneffer
Hal Horneffer
Angelica Hutchins
Kurt and Kari Janavitz
Deborah Kass
Dan Keller
Hannah Keller
Jodi and Pat Keller
Samuel Keller
John and Martha Kendler
George Kinzfohl
John Kirtley
Dan Knapp
Shaun Knapp
Thomas Knapp
Ashley Knight
Kristin Koch
Charlene Kordus
Marjorie and Thomas Kozlowski
Patrick and Kristin Krill
Hope and Robert Longwell-Grice

Lisa and Steven Lyons
Rachel and Carmello Maddente
Katie Mahalick and Bill Gomilla
Amy and Nate Marshall
Cynthia and Mark Mason
Lian McCarty
Julie McGuane
Raven McGuane
Rachel and Dustin Monroe
Chas Mulcahy
Hans Myklebust
Laura Nawrocki
Tom and Sue O'Byrne
Carrie O'Malley
Tolani Odutayo
Alex Palutis
Thomas Pence
Caran and Joel Quadracci
Laura Quinn
Mike and Ellen Mary Raster
Kathy and Tom Ryan
Nicole Rybeck
Kristin Sargeon
Denny Schackter and Patti Lock
Debbie Schaefer
Susan Schneider
Robert and Judith Scott
Cynthia Seeman
Laura Severson
Bridget and Pat Sheahan
Kristin Siepmann
Mike Sperling and Peggy Kirkeeng
Roger and Beth Stafford
Elizabeth and Ted Stuckslager
Gary and Marci Taxman
Cassandra Thorpe
Gina Vecera
Angie and James Viste
Blair Wangman
Helene Weisz
Greg and Carol Werchowski
Susan and Michael Woods
Sarah Zimmerman
Jamie and Ron Zingler

Herb Hentzen Scholarship

Debby and Bob Lentz — *In memory of
Herb and Mickey Hentzen*
Donna Parshalle



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.

Top Notch

Kastenmaier, Navidad Are First Hentzen Scholarship Winners

The first recipients of the Herbert D. Hentzen, Jr. Scholarship have been chosen. They are Benjamin Kastenmaier and Daniel Navidad.



Kastenmaier

The scholarship was established in memory of Hentzen, who served on the board of directors from 2000 until his death in 2021. He was known for his love of tennis and his dedication to MTEF's mission. The scholarship is meant to honor his legacy and to recognize MTEF participants who embody his values.

The \$2,000 scholarship will be awarded annually to a TEAM participant who plans to major in STEM, business, or education. This year, there was a tie between two outstanding candidates, so each was rewarded.

Kastenmaier, a senior at Brown Deer High School, has been a part of MTEF since the age of 8. He plans a career in nursing. He has been a member of the boys' varsity tennis team, serving as captain in his junior season.

When speaking about his involvement with MTEF and tennis, Kastenmaier said, "I am aware of how lucky I am to be a part of MTEF. I am lucky to have access to indoor courts, coaching during the off season and good friends that I've met through the program."

One of the best parts of MTEF, he said, is the coaches.

"My coaches are huge role models to me," he said, "and I look up to every one of them."

Navidad, a senior at Ronald Reagan College Preparatory High School, joined MTEF in 2022. His career goals "are to be a part of a system that challenges the norm and uses technology/science."

When talking about his involvement with MTEF, Navidad said, "The culture in place within MTEF was one of support, passion, and hard work. Seeing other people work hard to improve instilled a work ethic that I believe pushes me to succeed in tennis."

Participating in MTEF activities, he said, also gives him time to forget any distractions he may be experiencing in his life.

"Whenever I step on the court, these issues become tuned out and I appreciate MTEF for giving me the opportunity to play the sport I love, improve my capabilities and connect me with a community of likeminded tennis enthusiasts."

The foundation congratulates the recipients and wishes them the best of luck in their college studies.

We also wish to express our gratitude to the generous donors who have made the scholarship possible. We appreciate your continued support of our mission to improve the lives and futures of area youth and to grow the sport of tennis among the people of all ages whom we serve.



Navidad

2022 Tennis Ball Net Set a Record That Begs to Be Broken



From Page 1 with it an A+ reputation for its food and service.

Once again, TMJ4's Lance Allan is slated to emcee the evening program and conduct the live auction. MTEF participants will also be involved, describing their experiences in the program and how they have impacted their lives.

But no matter how much fun it is, the primary purpose of the Ball is to raise money to help MTEF fund its nationally recognized programming for which tennis is the starting point. Participants also learn life skills, enjoy a variety of enrichment activities, get help with their schoolwork, engage with mentors and more – all things that help them grow into well-educated, productive adults and caring community members.

Music for the cocktail hour and after-dinner dancing will be provided by DJ BG Good

This year's goal is to net \$75,000. That was the goal last year when MTEF exceeded expectations by raising slightly more than \$100,000 – a Tennis Ball record!

Might we break that record in 2023? With your help and support, it's a wonderful possibility!

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

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Tennis Ball 2023

Saturday, November 4, 2023

Italian Community Center

631 E. CHICAGO STREET, MILWAUKEE, WI 53202

Mtef.com/TB2023

6:00 PM - COCKTAILS & SILENT AUCTION
7:30 PM - DINNER, EVENING PROGRAM & LIVE AUCTION
9:30 PM - MUSIC & DANCING

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

Cocktail Attire

RSVP by October 20

QUESTIONS? INFO@MTEF.COM OR 414.442.8195

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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