



The tremendous success of the Annual Bradshaw Tennis Tournament allowed the Cottonwood Tennis Club to present a check for \$2075.00 to the Neighbors Who Care project. Members of the CTC board gathered for the presentation photo. Depicted above, left to right, are: Al Wagner, Judy Crane, Keith Nelson, Jerry Rex (President of Neighbors Who Care), Kels Kelzenberg, and Kathy Sundsrud. The tennis club was able to generate this money because the individuals who played in the Bradshaw Tournament chose to make a five dollar contribution as part of the registration process. As a result, the club was able to make this significant donation to a local charity that is experiencing a growing demand for its services during these difficult economic times.

The nearly three hundred members of the Cottonwood Tennis Club felt a sense of pride and enhanced community cohesion when the opportunity to make this gift was announced. Consequently, the five dollar entry fee for participation in the Bradshaw Tournament will henceforth be an entry fee rather than a voluntary contribution so we might be able to generate even larger charity donations in the future.

Throughout the month of November, the amount of tennis activity reached record levels. Attendance at the free lessons every Monday and Tuesday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 are drawing large numbers of participants—many Absolute Beginners. Many individuals and groups are using the ball machines at Cottonwood and Palo Verde to sharpen their skills. The practice wall at Cottonwood has proven to be a popular destination for club members and visitors who need some exercise.

An organized men's league known as the Tuesday Team Tennis (TTT) program has emerged at Oakwood. A large number of players from the Cottonwood club join with individuals from Solaris, Trilogy, Sunbird and IronOaks to form eight teams with nine individuals in each team. The teams, divided into two groups, have three individuals at each of three skill levels and every individual plays a minimum of six tournaments. Play will culminate with two playoff matches in March with a pizza party and an award ceremony that gives cash awards to the victors.

In the past few weeks, Tournament Director Tony Simonelli arranged social competitions with the Sun Bird and Leisure World tennis clubs for men and women and mixed double competition. Clearly, as the tennis season approaches its busiest time, the opportunities for individuals to find exciting games and rewarding competition grow.