

# Towerpoint Tennis Club - Appreciation Award

## Bill Echert



**2015**

Bill is probably the best known member of the Tennis Club as a very active player and his frequent informative membership emails with Diana's help as **Club Communication Coordinators**.

They came to Towerpoint in 2003 and soon became involved in the Entertainment Committee helping raise money for the Tennis Club. On seeing the time consuming task of scheduling the In-Park Tournament, Bill volunteered to put this on his computer converting a 3 day task into half a days work. From Rating Committee Coordinator, Club Website Design Assistance to Spaghetti Dinner Greeter, Bill's cheerful contributions to the Club have been invaluable.

Steve was Tennis Club President - 2x, Team Captain - 3x and counting, Event Coordinator - many x's, Scorekeeper, Cheerleader, Advisor to Club Presidents and Captains.

There isn't a Tennis Club function that Steve hasn't been involved in or been consulted on since coming to Towerpoint in 2001. Steve's second term as Club President was in 2011 - 2012. This was the season the Club finally achieved a tennis team uniform. Also, that year, club coaching by Pat Hurley was implemented to help improve team performance.

Steve and Joanne Nelson's Minnesota home is wonderful and they also love their Towerpoint winter community.

## Steve Nelson



**2014**

## Sandy Lou Simon



**2013**

Sandy Lou coached the Towerpoint 1.5 teams for 10 years. She enjoyed teaching this developmental level as the players are so eager to learn. They get excited about playing on the tennis court and don't worry about a win or loss. They are having fun.

She taught basic strokes - forehand, backhand, volley and serve. Court position and tennis etiquette.

Sandy Lou took up tennis at Towerpoint in 1999 after retiring from a career in teaching Medical Sciences. In addition to being an accomplished tennis player, she has also won 1st place in Precision Shooting competitions.

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## Kline Wilson



**2012**

Kline became a member of the Towerpoint Tennis Club in 2001 and served as President during the 2004-2005 season. He initiated the development of Rating Committee Guidelines, and assisted in their refinement before the club arrived at the current guidelines.

During his year as EVSTL President - 2013-2014, one challenging task he addressed was declining club membership in the 16 park league.

Since 2005, as Club Statistician, Kline has coordinated the consolidation of membership win-loss and games played statistics, and maintained an updated club roster.

Kline and Jan Wilson's summers are spent in Sequim, WA

Darren has been a resident at Towerpoint since 1997. As a member of the Tennis Club for 13 years, Darren has served in many positions: Team Captain at all levels from 2.0 to 3.5, Club President 2005/2006, Rating Committee Coordinator 2x, In-Park Tournament Coordinator and many other Club committees. He also finds time to head up Towerpoint's chapel board, monitors in lapidary and stained-glass, and now finds himself at the wood shop.

While contributing so much leadership to the Tennis Club, Darren also managed to undergo 8 major replacement part operations - now making him a true "bionic" man.

Darren and Jan Sipe live in La Conner, Washington.

## Darren Sipe



**2011**

Marv received this award for his tireless efforts behind the scenes at the courts and his positive attitude on the courts. With a smile and a wave, Marv greeted all comers.

Marv served in the Coast Guard, retired as a Commander and then was asked to develop and administer a vocational river training program for teens in Cincinnati. This was to become a landmark youth training program for future work on commercial river boats.

Along with being a valued member of the 3.0 team, Marv served as Coordinator of Court Maintenance, was a scorekeeper, and assisted with the annual In-Park Tournament.

Marv had fun at all events. At the 2010 Christmas Tennis Fun Day, Marv served as official Costume Judge.

## Marv Broman



**2010**

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## Diana Echert



**2009**

A very energetic lady - often found organizing an event, writing a story, helping at the courts, or teaching ball exercise classes. On first arriving at Towerpoint in 2003, she didn't play tennis but her years as a sports physical therapist prompted her to develop a court-side first aid kit.

She helped organize the TP Tennis Entertainment Committee responsible for the tennis dances. Diana is also known for her publicity and communication skills - designing posters for TP Tennis events and writing Time for Tennis articles and email notices. Since 2005, Diana and Bill Echert have been involved in planning or coordinating the end of season Towerpoint Tennis Tournament.

Energy and elegance best describe Emily Hughes. Over her many years at Towerpoint, Emily has been our official decorator and designer. When planning decorations and a theme for the monthly Tennis Dinners, many hosting teams have found their way to Emily's door. She always had new and fresh ideas which made us all feel good.

Emily's ideas also extended to the Festival Parade where she helped the Tennis Club win the Grand Prize several times in the past few years. She has devoted hundreds of hours to the Tennis Club creating costumes, centerpieces, and writing skits for us all. Perhaps her most famous achievement was the Club parade winning entry, "Cleopatra-in-de-Nile".

## Emily Hughes



**2008**

## Irv Smith



**2007**

An avid tennis player for 70 years, he describes himself as "a constant player and student of the game". Irv's enthusiasm for tennis is contagious, and many know Irv best as an instructor who volunteered numerous hours helping them fine-tune their tennis skills. He initiated team training drills at Towerpoint and developed some innovative drills to get his teaching points across.

Irv was a highly successful high school tennis coach in Bainbridge Island, WA and has continued to coach many players over the past 50 years. More recently, Irv began playing with a Wheelchair Tennis group in Scottsdale and is currently working to organize a Wheelchair Tennis group in the East Valley.

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## Reggie Lavesque



**2006**

Reggie was known as the “man with a heart of gold”. If Reggie heard of anyone at Towerpoint needing help, he would be the first to arrive and the last to leave. When it came time to clean the courts, he was already hard at work when the rest of the guys arrived. Always a smile, handshake, and a word of encouragement. His hidden talent was as a 50/50 ticket seller at the Tennis Dinners...no one said “no” to Reggie.

An excellent athlete, he played both softball and tennis at Towerpoint. Reggie was a long-time member of the 3.0 men’s tennis team and was know to have the best fist pump in the East Valley.

Joe is a man who can fix just about anything. Through sun, rain, floods and dark of night, Joe supervised Towerpoint court maintenance for many years. Joe has dedicated endless hours to making our courts the best place to play in the East Valley.

Originally from Kansas, he moved to Seattle where he worked as a machinist for over 25 years before finding the good life at Towerpoint. An avid volunteer, Joe can be seen helping at the Spaghetti Dinner, tennis invitationals, and many mornings as a league scorekeeper.

Joe can always find time for a tennis game, and has found another talent - photography, for which he has received several awards.

## Joe Henwood



**2005**

**Beginning in 2005, the Tennis Club initiated the annual presentation of an award to recognize an individual Club member who has made a special contribution to the Tennis Club.**

**Initially the award was called an Inspiration Award. Starting in 2012 the award is called the Appreciation Award.**