DFC Serves

March 2018

Recreation for the Duke Community
This year, the DFC celebrates its 100th anniversary. In 1918, the club had fifteen members and in 2018 it has 3,572 members. Just think of all the changes that have taken place during that time. How did these changes progress from concept to reality? Who is responsible for the direction and the well fare of the membership and organization?

The answer is the Board of Governors, an elected group of volunteers that manage the affairs of DFC. The Board is composed of nine positions: President, President Elect, Past President, Treasurer, Secretary, and four Members-At-Large.

The Board meets monthly to hear reports by staff and to act on matters pertaining to finances, policy, and the general health of the club.

But what is it that drives these volunteers to serve in these positions?

Secretary Christine Barboriak has been a club member for 10 years and was elected to the Board in 2017. “Serving on the Board of Governors is really a no-brainer from my perspective. The DFC is an integral part of my family’s life and knowing how valuable the club is, it is an easy task to help ensure that it thrives for the entire DFC community.”

Diversity was the platform important to Member At-Large Merrick Bernstein. “Because of my personal experiences, I believe I can help bring positive changes to the diversity of the club. As part of the Duke community we should be at the leadership end of change not at the tail end. The club is a home away from home and you want to give back to what gives to you.”

Members who want to help see that the club grows responsibly for future DFC members should consider serving on the Board of Governors. More information on the Board can be found on the club’s website.

Cathy Lavin, a member for the past 31 years, is a Member At-Large and chairs the Membership Committee. “I had just retired and was looking for a worthwhile project. I felt my skill sets as a professional administrator might be useful in dealing with policy discussions and strategic planning. I’m also very excited that as a long time member we now have three generations here at the club. My husband played tennis, I was a volunteer swim team mom and now we are bringing our grandchildren here. I encourage others who are at the point of finally having time to get involved in club leadership.”

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“was interested in serving on the Diversity and Inclusion Committee because I feel there is an opportunity to work as a community to strengthen the DFC’s commitment to providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all our members, our staff, and our guests. I find it particularly important and rewarding to work with others around a shared goal of valuing our differences, respecting the many forms of diversity, and celebrating what makes us unique.”

-Blue Dean
Serving the Community

“The little things make the big things happen,” says DFC Member Megan Cooke about why she participates in community service activities. Megan, along with several other DFC members, donated blood at the DFC sponsored blood drive in February.

The DFC has organized or sponsored a number of service opportunities over the years, such as holiday toy drives or coat drives for the Durham Rescue Mission, ARC blood drives, and a Leader-in-Training summer camp project with Keep Durham Beautiful.

These events have lasting effects on the service beneficiaries, as well as a positive impact for the volunteers themselves.

As Donald Bartosik said of his son Josh “He seemed to enjoy the [LIT Camp Keep Durham Beautiful] project, but I think more importantly it got Josh to think beyond his world (of school, technology/phones, of friends) and got him outside and moving around and working together with a ‘team’ to accomplish a tangible goal for the greater good.” Josh agreed and said he “learned a lot about helping out and I made a lot of new friends.”

The good news for members is that the DFC is working to increase the number of service opportunities for our club community.

Events and organizations drafted for 2018 include: Tobacco Road Marathon aid station, SEEDs gardening day, Habitat for Humanity build, LIT service week, school supplies drive, summer ARC Blood Drive, Keep Durham Beautiful planting and clean-up, Bull City Race Fest, and a food drive.

Want to get involved or have an idea or event that we can add to our list? Contact Tracey today!

**Tobacco Rd Marathon Aid Station**
- Sunday, March 18
- 6:00-9:00am or 9:00am-12:00pm
- Free t-shirt if sign up before 3/1
- Proceeds go to Hope for the Warriors, ARC, Triangle Rails to Trails Conservancy, and JDRF

**SEEDs Gardening Day**
- Saturday, April 28
- 9:00am-12:00pm
- SEEDs is a two-acre urban garden and kitchen classroom in the heart of Durham. SEEDs develops the capacity of young people to respect life, the earth, and each other through growing, cooking, and sharing food.
Serving on the Courts

**Tennis** is known for being a lifetime sport, and there is no better venue to witness that than at the DFC. From tiny tot four year olds to silver sneaker seniors, and from never before newbies to seasoned competitors, our courts are filled this time of year with tennis enthusiasts.

Each player is different, as is their journey into the sport, but one thing they all share is a passion for the activity.

“There’s just something about hitting the tennis ball,” said Darlene Williams, one of the DFC’s most avid tennis participants.

Darlene started her tennis career in 2011 by attending a DFC indoor clinic with a friend. This was the first year that DFC held indoor clinics, and Darlene enjoyed it so much that she decided to join the club specifically for this purpose. She started taking lessons to get more experience and was quickly integrated into a variety of programming and the tennis community. She also found that playing tennis was a great way to stay motivated to exercise, get fit, and engage in friendly competition.

Darlene’s advice for anyone new to tennis is to take some introductory lessons, keep at it, and practice, practice. After 7 years, Darlene’s passion for tennis grows stronger - enjoying every strike of the ball and the fun people she plays with at the DFC.

“Hitting a fuzzy ball might appear easy to some, but it takes coordination, vision, work ethic, and resilience. Also be prepared to laugh at yourself- some shots will go really wrong,” said Evan Fuget, in regards to his tennis journey.

Evan became interested in tennis when his son began participating in the youth clinics at DFC. He found that tennis was a way to connect and spend time with his son outdoors. It was also a sport that they could play together for a lifetime. Evan was impressed with how values and fun were infused into the learning of tennis skills at the DFC. The children involved in the clinics learned how to be competitive and challenge themselves, but also learned the value of good sportsmanship. He found that the atmosphere was inviting and there was room for everyone, regardless of age or skill level.

Evan continues to play tennis with his son and particularly enjoys participating in the DFC In-House Men’s League and the co-ed clinics.

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The tennis courts are now a favorite place for David to have social and competitive interactions with his DFC friends. “I really enjoy the inclusiveness of the tennis program, where all levels of play are encouraged. The ready availability of courts is a bonus, and my knees appreciate the additional clay courts.” He also enjoys having the ability to play against many different tennis players without leaving the comfort of the DFC campus.

Phil and Kay Singer are another tennis playing family that got into the sport later in their DFC career. After joining the DFC in 1978, it wasn’t until the early 90’s that Kay and their daughter began taking lessons with then Tennis Director, John LeBar. Phil started a few years later, and as their children headed off to school and other pursuits, the DFC tennis program and community became the main focus of their club involvement.

“Through the DFC tennis community, we have made a number of new friends with whom we have enjoyed many years of tennis,” says Phil. “The instructional activities, including clinics and private lessons are excellent. The staff holds social events fairly frequently and they are a lot of fun.”

DFC tennis is welcoming to players of all ages and skill level. Players have the opportunity to be competitive, develop new skills, sweat a little (or a lot!), and make lasting social connections.

Through private instruction, clinics, social events, formal leagues and informal pick-up play the tennis program has something to offer to everyone.

If you are interested in getting started (or getting back into) this lifetime sport, reach out to Coach Mike today!
DFC Happenings

Upcoming Events
For more information or to RSVP contact Tracey

March 3 - Chili Daze Cook-off
- Could you be the next DFC Chili Cook-off Champion?
- Drinks, cornbread, and chili toppings provided
- 4:00-6:00pm
- Free with a pot of chili to share

March 9 - Kids' Night Out
- Games, pizza, movie for kids ages 4-12 years old
- 6:00-9:00pm
- $15 for the first child, $10 for each additional

March 11 - Small Sided Ultimate Frisbee Tournament
- 3-on-3 ultimate frisbee games for ages 12 and up
- 2:00-4:00pm
- Free

March 14 - Early Bird Deadline for Camp Registrations

March 16 - Wine and Design Night
- Enjoy a fun evening hand painting your own take-home wine glasses
- 6:30-8:30pm
- $16 per person (free childcare available)

March 18 - Tobacco Road Marathon Aid Station
- Cheer and provide water for runners in this local race
- 6:00-8:00am, 8:00-10:00am, or 10:00am-12:00pm
- Free t-shirt with RSVP before March 1

March 18 - American Red Cross CPR/AED Course
- Get certified in Adult/Child CPR/AED
- 1:30-4:30pm
- $20 per person

More Upcoming Events...

March 30 - Mini Camp
- A day of games, crafts, and fun for kids grades K-6
- 8:30am-5:30pm
- $45 per child

March 31 - Spring Egg Hunt
- Children of all ages will canvas the DFC for candy-filled eggs and prizes
- 9:00-11:00am
- Free

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March 10 - Spring Men's Doubles Tournament
- Snacks, beverages, and prizes provided
- All levels welcome
- Free

March 20 - In-House Leagues begins
- Tuesdays for Women's, Wednesdays for Men's
- 6:30pm match start
- All levels welcome
- $10/person for 6 weeks
- Wine/beer post match

March 24 - Spring Women's Doubles Tournament
- Snacks, beverages, and prizes provided
- All levels welcome
- Free

Looking Ahead ...

April 2-6 - Spring Junior Tennis Camp
April 7 - Membership Appreciation Pig Pickin'
April 13 - Movie on the Lawn
April 27 - Kids' Night Out

April 28 - SEEDs Gardening Day
April 29 - Tye Dye Bash and Badminton Tournament
May 11 - Mayfiesta
May 12 - Main Pool opens!!!