

## The Twin City Kiwanis Club Makes a Gift to Grow the Game

*The Twin City Kiwanis Club and the North Carolina Tennis Foundation partner to bring tennis and education to the Ken Carlson Boys and Girls Club in Winston Salem.*

On the evening of Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> the Twin City Kiwanis Club of Winston Salem celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This celebration took place at Forsyth County Club and featured many distinguished guests including Winston Salem Mayor Allen Joines. The night was punctuated with the presentation of a \$10,000 grant to the North Carolina Tennis Foundation (NCTF). This grant was presented by the Twin City Kiwanis Club with the Winston Salem Foundation and accepted by Kelly Gaines, and Andrew Waldrop, of the NCTF.



(L to R) Andrew Waldrop, Program and Development Director, NCTF; Pappi Conrad, Unit Director, Ken Carlson Boys & Girls Club, Winston-Salem; Mildred F. Southern; Ed Hege, Past President; and Art Barnes, President.

The funds from this grant will be devoted to developing an National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) Chapter at the Ken Carlson Boys and Girls Club in Winston Salem. The goal of NJTL Chapters is to connect tennis and education together to impact youth. The children of the Ken Carlson Boys and Girls Club will be exposed to tennis through the Quickstart format. Quickstart tennis uses modified equipment to introduce tennis in a fun and play based way. This allows children to learn the game faster and start playing sooner. Alongside the tennis program, fun, educational curriculums will be introduced to connect math, reading, writing, character development and

nutrition into tennis. The combination of tennis and education ensures the children are receiving a well-rounded experience in their after school program.

The grant that made this program possible is the first that the Twin City Kiwanis Club presented from a \$100,000 bequest left to the club by charter member Harold T. Southern, who passed away in 2011. Harold Southern and his wife Mildred were pioneers in the Winston Salem tennis community. They worked hand in hand to start numerous youth programs and run events to grow tennis in Winston Salem. Mildred Southern continues to be an inspiration for tennis advocates and volunteers across the state.

### ***Kelly Gaines, North Carolina Tennis Foundation, Executive Director:***

“This was a truly inspiring evening and we are so thankful for the grant from Twin City Kiwanis Club. I know this is the start of a great partnership that will make an impact on children’s lives in Winston Salem. For this grant to also come from the bequest left by Harold Southern makes this even more special with his and his whole family’s compassion and dedication to growing tennis in North Carolina.”

## About the North Carolina Tennis Foundation

The North Carolina Tennis Foundation was organized in 1961 for the purpose of promoting tennis and later was responsible for forming its sister organization, the North Carolina Tennis Association. The Foundation provides financial support to many worthwhile tennis programs across the state. These programs include the National Junior Tennis & Learning (NJTL) Network, the NC State High School Championships, Wheelchair Tennis, and numerous grants. The NCTF is also responsible for maintaining the [North Carolina Tennis Hall of Fame](#).

## About Kiwanis International

This global organization of members is dedicated to serving the children of the world. Kiwanis and its family of clubs— more than 660,000 members strong—annually raise more than US\$100 million and dedicate more than 18.5 million volunteer hours to strengthen communities and serve children. Members of every age attend regular meetings, experience fellowship, raise funds for various causes and participate in service projects that help their communities. To learn more about the [Twin City Kiwanis Club](#) click here.

