

SPRING 2017

# Avalon Angle

## Manager's Report – From Jack Cox

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all Avalon members and guests to the upcoming summer activity season. The staff and I are looking forward to another safe, enjoyable and activity packed time of fun and relaxation.

I enjoy the pleasure of seeing the many familiar faces once again after the long winter months. I consider the great strength of Avalon is its family friendly environment.

Each year new members are coupled with the “old timers” to create a unique and special atmosphere. Please make a point to introduce yourself to anyone you have not been acquainted with. I think you will find the relationships you can build at Avalon to be quite positive.

Speaking of new people, the Avalon family would like to extend a special welcome to our new swim coach, **Katie Baxa**. She serves as a high school swim coach and swam for the University of Delaware club team. She will be joined by our returning assistant coach, Christina Muncy.



We would also like to welcome our two new assistant swim coaches, **Zoe Trezn** and **Willow Clark**.

**Sean Reynolds** will continue to lead our exceptional tennis program. He is an active member of the Richmond area tennis community and possesses a great deal of instructional knowledge. Sean is committed to providing programs for all ages and ability levels.

**Kenley Smalkowski** will continue to serve as our very capable dive team head coach. Kenley has positively represented Avalon's dive team as a participant and assistant coach for many years. Helping Kenley again this year will be assistant coach, **Joe O'Connor**.

Once again Gator Camp will be up and running under the new leadership of director, **Carley Wren**. Carley is a long time member of the full-time staff at Avalon. She is delightful with children and is poised to lead a program that provides outstanding activity for children that incorporates swimming, tennis and other fun activities.

Veteran swim lesson instructor **Sharon Ligon** will continue providing outstanding swim instruction at a both clinic and private level.

**Opening day is Saturday May 27**  
**Opening at 11:00am**

### Pool Hours

#### May 28 - June 15

Sunday - Thursday 12 to 7pm

Friday - Saturday 12 to 8pm

#### June 16 - July 31

11am to 9pm every day

Baby pool opens at 10am on Saturdays

#### August 1 - September 4,

Sunday - Thursday 10am to 8pm

Friday - Saturday 10am to 9pm



**Avalon Recreation**  
**Association**

## Manager's Report (continued)

**While minor year-round maintenance is a continued priority, we do have some new exciting developments of note related to facilities that took place over the winter.**

**First, a Vortex Full-Tube Pool Slide** with ladder steps was installed. This water slide features a 19 foot corkscrew ride flume with a drop of nearly 8 feet from start to finish. It has a high volume water delivery system that delivers up to 40 gallons of water per minute. This ride should be a lot of fun for the membership in our upper (activity) pool. This unit fully complies with the US Consumer Product Safety Standards for swimming pool slides (16 CFR 1207). It has enclosed steps, easy-to-grip hand rails and nonslip treads.

**Secondly, the restrooms (including the tennis restroom) are in the process of being refurbished.**

The upgrades include: new stall dividers, fixtures, counter tops, floor sealer, wall and ceiling paint.

Third, upper pool surface chips have been repaired and resurfaced. Fourth, the bleachers that overlook courts 4-8 have been stripped and repainted.



Many thanks to Avalon Member Lesley Glotzl for her time and input on the Avalon Pool Bathroom decor.

<http://www.lesleyglotzl.com/>

And lastly, we plan to erect a mini aquatic basketball goal to the baby pool to add additional activity based fun for the youngsters.

Please make note that tennis locks will be changed on May 1. New tennis keys will be \$5 per key. You can start picking up the new tennis keys starting April 15 in the manager's office.

Also, as a reminder, our first home swim meet will take place on Sunday, June 11 and starts at 2 pm. Therefore the pool will close at 1 pm.

We will continue our very popular Friday evening grilling starting June 16. On all Friday nights through Labor Day we will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for sale for members and guests between the hours of 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Bring down your family and friends on Fridays to relax by the pool and enjoy a fresh grilled burger and/or hotdog.

## “It’s not where you are, but where you’re headed.”

You may have heard the saying “it’s not where you are, but where you’re headed”. After 60 years in existence, Avalon is in an enviable position. Located along the River Road corridor in the Maybeury and Collegiate neighborhoods, it’s an idyllic swim and tennis club bordered by woods and a tributary of Tuckahoe Creek. It has assets close to \$3 million and liabilities of less than \$500,000. Its swimming and tennis programs are some of the best in the area. Great location, great people, great fun!



### **But equally important...where is it headed?**

The short answer is: wherever you, the membership, want to take it. The sky is the limit. As a member for the past 15 years and a Director for the past three, here’s where I have seen it trending recently, and maybe where it’s headed.

Avalon is trending from a summertime swim and tennis facility toward more of a three season community social and recreation center. Already in the spring, the tennis courts are often full in April with youth and adult lessons and tournaments, including some local school tournaments.

Late April and May, when the weather becomes more reliable, are prime for community events. This year the annual Adult Social will be in May, and there’s thoughts of more springtime community activities such as family camp outs, basketball tournaments, and other socials.

The Brian McCarty Memorial Tennis Pavilion, which is proposed to be built with private funds raised by Brian’s friends in the tennis community, if completed, may provide additional opportunities for community events and gatherings. The planned bike paths in the upper wooded area will bring spring, summer, and fall activity on the grounds.

Summertime at Avalon, as everybody knows, is rife with activity, but the fun doesn’t end on Labor Day. With Avalon events such as the Annual Corn-Hole Tournament in September and the Annual Autumn

Cup tennis tournament in October, fall at Avalon has become fairly eventful. The Corn-Hole tournament brings Avalon’s adult community together to enjoy the beautiful fall weather and a little laid-back competition, with of course the requisite beer, wine, and dinner.

The three-day Annual Autumn Cup tennis tournament, currently in its 11th year, features teams from Avalon, Kanawha, RCC, Ridgetop, Three Chopt, Southampton, MRTC, and Bon Air. With friends from all over Richmond and great food and drinks, this event is as much social as it is competitive.

If this trend of expanding the “Avalon Year” continues, it is likely that in the future Avalon may be the venue for events heading up to and through the winter holidays. And although currently there are no official winter activities at Avalon, snow events draw many of the neighborhood families together to socialize and sled on the hillside.

Some capital improvements may open up future opportunities for spring and fall community events.

One discussion has centered on the best use of the lower courts. One thought is to convert the area into an all-purpose court area, including basketball courts, a tennis/lacrosse backboard, and other youth court sports (nine or possibly even eighteen holes of miniature golf has also been suggested).

The consensus among the Board of Directors, however, is that at least eight tennis courts are needed for the membership, so additional tennis courts would need to be constructed to enable the conversion, if desired.

So these are some thoughts on where we’re headed.  
**The sky really is the limit for Avalon! So think big!**

**And remember, it takes you, the membership, to make it happen.**

## 2017 Summer Social Events

### Avalon Open House

Sunday, May 7, 2pm – 4pm

### Adult Social

Friday, May 19, 6:30pm – 11pm

### Pool opens

Saturday, May 27, 11am – 8pm

### Memorial Day Tennis Social

Monday, May 29, 9am – 11am

### Memorial Day Cookout

Monday, May 29, 12pm – 2pm

### Brian McCarty Memorial Tournament

Saturday, June 10

### Pizza Party

Friday, June 16, 12:30 pm

NEW!

### Thirsty Third Friday

Friday, June 16, 6pm – 9pm

### Father's Day Fun-Day

Sunday, June 18, 3pm

### Middle School Social

Wednesday, June 21, 7pm – 9pm POOL OPEN!

### Ladies Night Out

Thursday, June 29, 7pm – 11pm POOL CLOSED

### July 4th Parade & Cookout

Tuesday, July 4, 12pm – 4pm

### Family Float Night

Friday, July 14, 7pm – 9pm

NEW!

### Thirsty Third Friday

Friday, July 21, 6pm – 9pm

### Family Float Night

Friday, August 11, 7pm – 9pm

NEW!

### Thirsty Third Friday

Friday, August 18, 6pm – 9pm

### Teen Night

Thursday, August 24, 7pm – 9pm POOL CLOSED

### Family Movie Night

Friday, August 25, 8pm – 10pm

### 3rd-5th Grade Social

Monday, August 29, 5pm – 7pm POOL OPEN!

### Labor Day "Fun Day Sun-Dae"

Monday, September 5, 12 noon

### Corn-Hole Tournament

Saturday, September 16



## Gator camp 2017 Schedule

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

(rain or shine)

SESSION I	JUNE 19 - JUNE 23
SESSION II	JUNE 26 - JUNE 30
HOLIDAY	JULY 1 - JULY 9
SESSION III	JULY 10 - JULY 14
SESSION IV	JULY 17 - JULY 21
CHAMPS!	JULY 25 - JULY 30
SESSION V	JULY 31 - AUGUST 4
SESSION VI	AUGUST 7 - AUGUST 11

## Gator Camp fees

- The cost for members is \$175 per week per child.
- The cost for non-members is \$195 per week per child.
- There is a \$10 sibling discount for child number two and up.
- Daily Member drop-in rate is \$40/day with advance registration.
- Daily Non-Member drop-in rate is \$50/day with advance registration

Please make checks payable to **Avalon Recreation Association**. Payment by bank check only. **Thank you for your cooperation!**

## REMEMBER

**Cookouts every Friday night throughout the summer!**

**Noodle Nights Every Wednesday in August from 6pm - 8pm!**

**Don't miss our special "Introduction to Noodle Nights" July 5th and July 26th from 7pm - 9pm.**

All events subject to change (including cancellation due to weather).

# Swimming

## Gators Swim Team

The Avalon Gators Swim Team consists of approximately 190 swimmers who participate in the James River Aquatic Club (JRAC) league. This summer we will compete in the RED (Middle) division of JRAC. We have 4 wonderful coaches that help our swimmers have a fun and competitive season.

To participate in the Avalon swim team, a swimmer must be able to safely cross one length of the pool using any stroke. If you have a child who wants to participate in the team but needs to work on completing a length of the pool, our Mini Mites pre-team may be a good fit. This program offers more hands-on instruction with the coaches to help swimmers gain confidence to swim independently.

To learn more, please visit:  
<http://www.avalonclub.org/swim>

## Avalon Swim Lessons

For schedule and costs, please visit:  
<http://www.avalonclub.org/lessons>

Sign up for classes and private lessons by calling **Sharon Ligon** at 741-9423 or by email: **sharon.ligon@sothebysrealty.com**, or at the pool office when the pool opens on Saturday, May 27th.

There is a blue/black registration binder on the shelf to the left when you enter the pool office. You may sign up your child for the class that works for you. Again, private lessons are set up directly with the instructors.

Payment for classes/ privates can be made anytime before the class begins to the instructor or the pool office!! We must have at least four students to make a class!

<b>LEVEL I &amp; II</b>	<b>9AM - 10AM</b>
<b>LEVEL III</b>	<b>10AM - 11AM</b>
<b>LEVEL IV &amp; V</b>	<b>11AM - 12PM</b>

If you have any questions or want a particular class to be taught, please contact me. **Summer is coming!!**

# Diving

## Gators Dive Team

The Dive Team competes with other local clubs through the summer (see the Schedule for this year's events).

Divers are taught proper diving techniques during safe and fun practices and they compete with others of their own age and skill category.

### Age Groups

A child's age group is determined by his/her age on June 1st of the competition year. Seniors may compete until they reach their 19th birthday.

<b>MITES</b>	<b>9 AND YOUNGER</b>
<b>MIDGETS</b>	<b>10 AND 11 YEARS OLD</b>
<b>JUNIORS</b>	<b>12 AND 13 YEARS OLD</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATES</b>	<b>14 AND 15 YEARS OLD</b>
<b>SENIORS</b>	<b>16 AND OLDER</b>

Divers must be registered in order to practice and/or participate in meets. Avalon rules stipulate that children under age 9 cannot be left at the pool without supervision of a responsible person age 13 or older. This applies to dive team practice as well.

Questions about dive team? Contact **Len Archer** at 285-9767 or visit: <http://www.avalonclub.org/dive>

## The following recent Avalon Gators went on to swim/dive in college:

<b>James Anderson</b>	University of Pennsylvania
<b>Conor Blackwood</b>	University of Pennsylvania
<b>Tyler Harris</b>	University of North Carolina <i>(6th place US Olympic Trials)</i>
<b>Sommer Harris</b>	Florida Gulf Coast University
<b>Jennifer Lushao</b>	Rice University
<b>Mac Anthony</b>	Northwestern University
<b>West Cuthbert</b>	Yale University
<b>Sam Cuthbert</b>	Princeton University
<b>Ashton Pollard</b>	University of Pennsylvania
<b>Samantha Winkelmann</b>	University of Pittsburgh
<b>Mary Rose Campbell</b>	Virginia Tech

**Keep us posted on YOUR swimming and diving future!**

# Tennis at Avalon

## Tennis Lessons with Sean Reynolds

### Private Lessons

To schedule a private lesson contact the tennis office at [avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com](mailto:avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com) or call (804) 750-2726.

### Private Lesson Costs (1 hour)

	Member	Non-Member
Private	\$45/lesson	\$50/lesson
Semi-Private (2 people)	\$25/lesson	\$30/lesson

### Group Clinics

Gather 2 or more friends and schedule a group clinic! Contact the tennis office at [avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com](mailto:avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com) or (804) 750-2726.

### Group Clinic Costs (1 hour)

	Member	Non-Member
3 people	\$20/lesson	\$25/lesson
4+ people	\$15/lesson	\$20/lesson

Payment by cash or check is due at the time of instruction. Cancellations require 24 hours advance notice.

## Ladies Suburban Teams

Avalon is proud to field Richmond Suburban Ladies Tennis League teams. If you are new to Avalon Tennis, joining a Suburban League team is a great way to meet other members and have fun! Avalon has teams for players at the beginner and intermediate levels. Suburban match play consists of singles and doubles and runs for seven weeks in the Spring and Fall.

If you are returning to Ladies Suburban please contact your team captain. If you have not played Ladies Suburban in the past but would like to, contact the tennis office.

**Please contact the tennis office at (804) 750-2726 with any questions.**

## Spring 2017 Avalon Junior Tennis Clinics

### 2017 SUMMER SESSION

Registration for Session I of Avalon's summer junior tennis clinics is under way! If you are interested in pairing up tennis and swimming in the afternoon, tennis clinics will be held prior to that age group's swim practice, with a 15 minute break in between (30 minute break for ages 4-6).

**Registration is done online via [signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com)**

### How does it work?

Pick a day and a time (Mondays from 9:30-10:00 for example). Bring your child on that day and time for the 5 weeks of that session! Payment is due in full at the first clinic. Make ups for the same class on a different day or time will be made available as needed.

Have a question? Send an email to: [avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com](mailto:avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com)

### Little Reds (ages 4-6)

\$50 per session (5 weeks)  
Minimum 3, Maximum 6 (2 instructors for 5+)

### Big Reds (ages 6-8)

\$70 per session (5 weeks)  
Minimum 3, Maximum 8 (2 instructors for 5+)

### Orange Future Stars (ages 8-10)

\$90 per session (mornings - 5 weeks),  
\$70 per session (afternoons - 5 weeks)  
Minimum of 3, Maximum of 8 (2 instructors for 5+)

### Yellow (ages 11-13)

\$90 per session (5 weeks)  
Minimum 3, Maximum 8 (2 instructors for 5+)

For more information or to register contact the office at: [avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com](mailto:avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com)

Limited space available!

**For more details, schedules and pricing, please visit: <http://www.avalonclub.org/juniorclinics/>**

