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# THE IMPROVED LIE

**Petaluma Golf & Country Club, April 2019**



## **President's Message**

*By Mike Johnson*

Happy spring to every one! The 10-day forecast looks exceptional. We should have days in the 70s on a regular basis for the next 10 days. Hopefully this will encourage people to come out and enjoy the golf club. If you have not been up in a while, we have made a lot of changes inside the club house. The TV has been moved and so has the merchandise. If you have not seen it yet, it's excellent. Jeff and Travis have done an exceptional job of making the place more welcoming and user-friendly. Between the two of them the number of programs and activities has been expanded upon significantly to cater to the non-golfer and golfers a like. We had many new members that are younger that have families and so a lot more activities have been planned with them in mind. The movie nights have been a huge success and if you have not come out with your own kids or grandkids you are missing out.

The monthly Bounty give away continues to grow as does the crowds that it attracts. \$1600 is up for a lucky member to be given away on the 26<sup>th</sup>. You can't win if you don't show up, and a good time was had by all who attended the event in March. I hope to see you at this month's give away.

Please help me congratulate Danny Hernandez our employee of the month for April! Well done Danny!

Fairways and Greens

## PG&CC Board of Directors

### President

Michael Johnson

### Vice President

Sue Berger

### Treasurer

Keith Brians

### Secretary

Harry Pearson

### Director

Wayne Guphill

### Director

Alan Brownlie

### Director

Larry Riis

### Director

Jeremy King

### Director

Brenda Roberts



## PG&CC History – Part 11

By Keith Brians

This is part of a series of articles about the club's history. Information about the club's early years is from digitized copies of the Petaluma Argus Courier available at the Petaluma Library using Newspapers.com. The Press Democrat and the Oakland Tribune were also used. The club's own records before 1943 have apparently been lost to history. However, the club's minutes and other historical pieces from 1943 on remain.

### Play Continues - 7

At a ladies tea on Wednesday, January 22, 1930, a decision was made to establish Wednesdays as the regular day for the club's women golfers. The meeting also set the schedule for the season and laid out plans to field a strong team of women golfers in North Bay Women's Golf Club events.

At the end of January, the club's pro, Jack Nielsen, resigned. Nielsen had been very popular with the membership and brought the pro shop's standards to a higher level than his predecessors. Nielsen moved on to manage the Burlingame Golf School co-owned by his former teacher, Bob Gates.

Golfers teed off from a temporary tee on the first hole (now the third) in the Maclay Cup's qualifying round on Saturday, February 15, as the original starting mound was being replaced by a permanent grass tee. Eric Nissen, already a three-time club champion, led the qualifiers with a gross 79. Nissen was knocked out in the first round by H. C. Scrutton 4 and 3. The 36-hole finals were played on Sunday, March 16. Starting 5 holes down each 18 holes in the handicap event, H. C. Scrutton shot 38 for each of the first three nines, to beat Harry Benton 10 and 8.

The club house was busy on Wednesday, February 19. The ladies' group held a luncheon and spent the afternoon playing bridge. The announcement that Mission Inn Golf & Country Club pro on Friday to conduct lessons eagerly welcomed. Later in the day, over 80 members and guests attended the men's group's stag dinner. To improve familiarity with the rules of golf, a humorous and fast-paced mock trial was set up with local attorneys in the role of prosecutors and defenders.

Healdsburg sent 28 players to Petaluma on Sunday, March 24, for a home-and-home event. The course was in excellent condition and Petaluma prevailed in a foursome best ball format 21 to 11. Roy Kopf had the shot of the day with a hole-in-one on No. 5 (no longer in play). Lunch was prepared and served in great style by several women members of the club.

On Monday, March 30, club members were shocked to learn that 23-year old John Grady, the club's second pro, had died in a fire attributed to smoking in bed at his home in San Rafael. Grady, who was well regarded by the members and held the course record of 65, had left the club in October 1929 to work as a pro at the Meadow

Golf Club in Fairfax. Born in San Rafael, Grady was a gifted athlete, excelling in school as a tennis and baseball player as well as in golf.

The first round of the county cup was played in Healdsburg on Sunday, April 6. Having won the tournament the two previous years, the Petaluma team was hoping for another win in 1930 to secure permanent possession of the McNamara Cup. Healdsburg's team had other ideas, leading the scoring for the first time in the cup's history with a 691 to Santa Rosa's 700 and Petaluma's 711. Santa Rosa hosted the second round the following week and humiliated their opponents gaining a lead of 71 points over Petaluma and 80 over Healdsburg. Petaluma hosted the third round on April 27, and recovered a bit of their pride by beating Santa Rosa by 2 points, but lost the three round tournament by 69 points. Home-town boy Emmett Olmsted Jr won the low gross for the three rounds with a 233, beating Santa Rosa's Warren Richardson's 236.

Petaluma entertained the 30th regiment of the United States Army's Third Infantry Division when it arrived in town on a two-week training march from the Presidio. Entertainment was provided by the Chamber of Commerce, the city council, Legion Post, and the Petaluma Minstrels. The Chamber provided eggs for the enlisted men meals. Officers dined with members at the club on Wednesday, May 21.

To celebrate opening the new sixth-hole green (in the fairway between the 150-yard mark and the current 5th green) the club put on a picnic in the flat area in front of the current 6th green on Sunday, June 15. Tents were erected for a barbeque featuring spring lamb, salad, Spanish beans, rolls, coffee and apple pie. Over 100 members and guests attended. Earlier in the day, Bill Thomas won his second club championship, defeating Emmett Olmsted Jr on the 37th hole.

A stag dinner started off the 1931 social season. Nick Failla catered and provided a substantial meal for 85 members and guests. President Bill Hill gave a talk on the business side of the club and Eric Nissen spoke humorously about the educational value of golf. Following up, E. T. Pedranti recited poetry. The wrap-up to the evening's entertainment was a talk by Leo Bourke about his 84-day ocean voyage on the Ivaneo. Burke sailed from Boston, visited the islands of the Caribbean Sea, sailed through the Panama Canal and finished in San Francisco. During the evening music was provided by Roger Brumbaugh.

Work by the greenkeepers at the direction of the greens committee continued to improve the course. A new tee on hole No. 9 (current 18th tee) was started to provide an unobstructed view of the hole and a new grass tee was added at No. 5 (cut-out hole below Nizibian's). Plans were also underway for a new tee on the sixth hole to make it more playable. It was also determined to hold the club championship in March to provide better conditions.



## Fairways and Greens Report

*By Harry Pearson*

Well we've certainly had ourselves a Winter this year and as I'm writing this article on April 1st, it doesn't look like it's going to end this week. Every time the course starts to dry out, we get another deluge. The crew is getting mows in as often as possible but a lot of times they can only use the small mower. There are still places that can't be mowed. The good news is we're not spending much money on water. Hang in there!

While the crew has been doing a lot of cleanup type work due to the weather, we've got some bigger projects we're lining up. We should be completing the renovation of the #6 bunker shortly if the weather cooperates. We need to put in a little more drainage in and then add the sand.

Aeration is scheduled for Monday, April 15th. We will be using ½” tines and the greens will be impacted and take a couple of weeks to fully heal. I gave the agronomy reasons for aeration in my article a couple of months ago, so I hope you’ve read it and understand the process. The good news is that Travis and Jeff will be lining up some ‘play away’ dates for that week. Check with the front counter people or sign up in the binder for these events if you’re interested. Spots go fast.

During the aeration week, we also will have an outside contractor come in and do some major tree cutting of 5 trees and stumps between #2 and #5. This way we can get 2 events that impact play done at the same time. Bill and I will be meeting with the cart path contractor to take measurements and get pricing on continuing our cart path project of converting the asphalt paths into concrete. This will be a Fall project which, maybe we’ll schedule when we do Fall aeration.

Bill will be doing work on the Jr. Tees to get them ready for the upcoming Jr. Season and he’s going to construct a new Lady’s Tee on #16.

Other than that, we’re still trying to hire another crew member to bring us up to full strength. We’ve been down a crew member since Hilario left almost 2 yrs. ago.

That’s it for now. Hopefully when the rain ends the course will be in great shape for the season.

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## 18-Hole Women’s Section

*By Eileen Ostroff*



Pictured above: Eileen Ostroff, Sue Berger, Claudia Little, Lois Skarsten, Kelly Downey, Joan Johnson, Ruth Giacomini, Sandy King

**Don’t forget, as the season progresses, we will be teeing off at 8:30.**

Having had four scheduled golf days since our Kick Off we have played exactly zero games. We have had a rules seminar and a golf fitness seminar. Once we do get to play we will be ALL OVER THAT GAME! Thank you Jeff! In April we have Ostroff EC, one of our major tournaments. It’s a four week tournament BUT you can win with only one week of play!

### **Open Days:**

**May:** Palo Alto Hills 5/2 Seqouyah 5/7 **Lake of the Pines** 5/8 Auburn Valley 5/9 Tierra Oaks 5/21 Yolo Fliers 5/21 Riverview 5/22 Pajaro Valley 5/28 Kings River 5/30 Serrano 5/30

Look for further information coming to you via TeamSnap.



## 9-Hole Petaluma Chicks

*By Lois Skarsten*

Our golf season so far has been a washout! The one day we played was cart path only from the junior tees. Hopefully we can get out on the course soon. Jeff has held clinics and exercise programs for us that have been very beneficial. See you at the club!

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## Junior Golf

*By Mike Morgan*

Despite the weather, March was another successful month for Junior Golf at Petaluma Golf & Country Club.

On Sunday, March 24th Jeff Hwang hosted an Orientation meeting and seminar for prospective and current Junior players. Over 50 juniors and their parents attended to hear details of the plans and programs for the 2019 summer season. The afternoon also included an interactive presentation of our new SNAG (Starting New At Golf) teaching system with most all the kids (and many parents!) having the opportunity to test their skills at putting, chipping and full swing hits - all indoors!

Also in March, Jeff announced to the Junior Golf Committee that the PGA Junior League has finalized the roster of teams participating in the 2019 Sonoma League season. Included are clubs many of our adult members would enjoy playing: Mayacama, Fountain Grove, Windsor, Santa Rosa Country Club, Oakmont, and of course our very own PG&CC, the first club in Sonoma County to field a team back in 2012. Our juniors will have some fine venues to learn and enjoy competitive golf!

Finally, on Saturday, March 30, PG&CC hosted the inaugural Egg Bowl, a competitive match for the local high school teams: Petaluma, Casa Grande and St. Vincent. Organized and developed by our own Mike Candau (an original PG&CC junior parent) the match was attended by many parents, grandparents and members member parents who enjoyed the clear and warm sunny day. With the success of this first match, we expect it will be an annual event; plans are also being made for a girls Egg Bowl to be held at the end of their season in the fall.

Thanks again to all members for your enthusiastic support of our Junior program!

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## Men's Tournaments

*By Alan Brownlie & Larry Riis*

The golf season has had a slow start but April marks the beginning of the Sleep City Cup. Please note, the Sleep City Cup is a season long event but you do not have to play in every event to win it all (Best 6 count) Each event gives you an opportunity to win that week plus helps you build your point totals. There is only a small entry fee to participate in the seasonal long event, so please sign up. It will be a lot of fun and you will almost for sure win something at the season ending event

Results of two events:

March 16th - 2 Man Best Ball:

Gross Winner: Brandt / Morris - 70  
Net Winner: Banister / Thomas - 63  
Closest to the Pin: Plattner - 9'4"

April 6<sup>th</sup> – April Medal

Gross Winner: Alan Brownlie - 69  
Net Winner: Jon Banister - 66  
Closest to the Pin: Bob Deering

Upcoming Event: (a Sleep City cup events.) Please sign up before the event, so Jeff and Travis can have the cards ready to go

1 Man Scramble - April 20, 2019

Hope to see you all in the tee

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## Socials and Outings

APRIL 12: Movie Night: Ralph Breaks the Internet. Special Menu will be available at 5pm. Movie starts at 6pm

APRIL 15: Green Aeration

APRIL 16: Road Trip – Bennett Valley Golf Course

APRIL 17: Road Trip – Eagle Vines Golf Club

APRIL 18: Golf Seminar – The Metal Game

APRIL 20: Road Trip – Foxtail Golf Course

APRIL 21: Easter Brunch 11:00am

APRIL 26: Social Mixer Trivia Night 5:30pm to 7:30pm. With special menu.

MAY 3: Movie Night

MAY 12: Mother's Day Brunch 11:00am

MAY 16: Road Trip – Northwood Golf Club

MAY 24: Member Social Mixer

JUNE 7 & 8: Road Trip: Tahoe (Grey's Crossing and Old Greenwood)

JUNE 11 & 12: Egg Basket

JUNE 15: Father's Day Corn Hole Tournament

JUNE 28: Member Social Mixer

PETALUMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB



# MOVIE NIGHT

APRIL 12 | STARTS AT 6:00PM

SPECIAL GUESTS: 5:00-6:00PM  
SPECIAL MENU WILL BE AVAILABLE STARTING AT 5:00PM

*RSVP's (Required):*

*Click on this flyer or sign up in the tournament binder at the pro shop*

PETALUMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

# Aeration Week Activities

Don't stop golfing because we punched holes in the ground. Check out the list of options we have available for the week of April 15th. The golf outings are open to all members.

DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	PRICE
Monday, April 15th	<b>Green Aeration</b>	Course Closed Until 2pm	
Tuesday, April 16th	<b>Road Trip: Bennett Valley Golf Course</b>	10:30am	\$49 per player with cart
Wednesday, April 17th	<b>Road Trip: Eagle Vines Golf Club</b>	9:00am	\$41 per player
Thursday, April 18th	<b>Golf Seminar: The Mental Game</b>	6:00pm-7:00pm	Free
Saturday, April 20th	<b>Road Trip: Foxtail Golf Course</b> (Only 12 spots available during each tee time)	7:39am and 10:30am	\$47 per player with cart

## RSVP:

Sign up in the tournament binder in the pro shop or email Travis at [tberding@petalumagolfandcountryclub.com](mailto:tberding@petalumagolfandcountryclub.com)



# EASTER BRUNCH & Egg Hunt

SUNDAY | APRIL 21, 2019 | 11AM BRUNCH

*Egg Hunt Starts at 12:00PM  
Take Pictures with the Easter Bunny!*

## MENU

- Honey Glazed Ham served at a carving station with assorted mustards
- Variety of Frittatas (Vegetarian and Meat)
- French Toast served with Berries, bananas, syrup and whipped cream
- Cheesy Potatoes
- Variety of Sausages
- Spring Salad
- Caesar Salad
- Breakfast Pastries
- Fruit Salad

**Adults: \$40**

**Juniors (age 5 to 10): \$20**

**Kids (age 4 & under): FREE**

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)




# SOCIAL MIXER TRIVIANIGHT

AT PETALUMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

FRIDAY APRIL 26TH | 5:30-7:30PM

**Can you answer the following question?**

Since its inception in 1975, what popular TV show has been broadcast from Studio 8H at 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York City?.....if you answered "Saturday Night Live", then you need to find 3 other friends and join our first trivia night!



**Whether you play or not,  
you'll still have a chance to  
win \$1.6k!!**

**Sign up a team of 2-6 players**

**\$25** per person  
(includes dinner)

**CLICK HERE TO  
SIGN UP ONLINE**

# APRIL 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01	02	03	04	05	06
	SIRS Event 8:30am Shotgun	Men's Twilight Dinner				Men's Medal 8:30 Shotgun
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
		Men's Twilight Dinner	House and Grounds Meeting 5:30pm		Movie Night: Ralph Breaks the Internet 5:00-8:00pm 	Men's 1-Man Scramble  Event in the Hall 2:00 – 8:00 Sponsoring Member Allan
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Green Aeration  *Course Closed until 2pm*	<u>Road Trip:</u> Bennett Valley GC (Santa Rosa)	<u>Road Trip:</u> Eagle Vines GC (Napa)  Greens and Fairways Meeting 5:00pm Board Meeting 6:00pm	Golf Seminar: The Mental Game 6:00-7:00		<u>Road Trip:</u> Foxtail GC (Rohnert Park)
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Easter Brunch 11:00am Brunch 12:00pm Egg Hunt  		Men's Twilight Dinner			Trivia Night Social Mixer 5:30 – 7:30pm  	
28	29	30				
		Men's Twilight Dinner				