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THE IMPROVED LIE

Petaluma Golf & Country Club, February 2017

ANNUAL MEETING

By Christopher Gay

Our Annual Membership meeting will be held on March 2nd at 5:30pm. At 5:30pm we will have a complimentary pasta dinner for all members. Immediately after the dinner the annual meeting will begin. Please be sure to save the date and be a part of your club's governance!

**PG&CC
Board of
Directors**

President
Mike Candau

Vice President
Harry Pearson

Treasurer
Donna Beels

Secretary
Peter Barufkin

Director
Larry Riis

Director
Patty Haynes

Director
Wayne Guptill

Director
Timo Rivetti

Director
Keith Brians

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS

By Christopher Gay

2017 will be the biggest year ever for junior golf at PG&CC. At this time – we want to gather all emails from parents and children/grandchildren. We will develop a Junior specific newsletter and email tree so that all junior golfers and their parents know what is happening at the club.

Please send an email to cgay@petalumagolfandcountryclub.com with the emails that you want me to register into our system.

We are currently seeking:

- Juniors 9-13 for our PGA Junior League
- Junior 14-16 for our PGA Junior League 16u

We will have our play dates, camps and development programs posted soon.

Thank you!

MEN'S TOURNAMENT REPORT

By Christopher Gay

Unfortunately, the rain caused both of our January Tournaments to be cancelled. The Night Golf Tournament will be played in Spring when conditions are dryer.

Save the Date – Goat Hill Invitational is September 28-30
2/18/2017 Gin Fizz Tournament 9:00am Shotgun and Breakfast
3/4/2017 Men's Medal

WOMEN'S 18 HOLE GROUP

By Jill Cheda

2017 KICK OFF DAY is March 1st.

The Women's 18 Hole group would like to remind ALL lady golfers that we are kicking off the 2017 year on March 1st. All ladies who are interested in joining us that day are welcomed. Are you playing with the 9-Holers? Are you a weekend golfer? Just starting? Please come and meet a lot of other women golfers.

We will be having a nine-hole scramble (weather permitting). Afterwards we will have a social lunch. A short meeting and lots of laughs.

If you're interested in joining us just let the club house know that you will be there to play golf. The scramble will be a random draw of names. Play with someone new, and enjoy!

If you would like to have lunch please call Laurie Leask at 707-762-8164 prior to February 25. Lunch is \$15.00. We hope to see a lot of new faces for a fun day of golf, food and laughter!!

9-HOLE WOMEN'S SECTION

Opening Day, Tuesday, March 7, 2017 for the 9 Hole Ladies Division aka the Petaluma Chicks

The 2017 Petaluma Chicks Board invites you to attend opening day for season orientation, sign up, and even some course play. Opening Day details are:

When: Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Time: 9:00am - app. 12:30pm (end time takes into account course play)

Where: PGCC clubhouse

Menu: Morning breads basket and fruit salad with coffee, orange juice, and Mimosas

The Petaluma Chicks offers structured skills- and contest-based, regular 9 hole play in a season that starts in March and ends in October. A long season like this provides for a lot of opportunity to play regularly, but the flexibility of getting a lot of golfing in even when you have to miss some of the weekly play.

The Petaluma Chicks Division 2017 Season is dedicated to celebrating women playing golf. Our 2017 theme has been inspired by the 2017 National Golf Day global organizers' WE ARE GOLF promotion.

The PGA (Professional Golfer's Association) of America is looking to women to grow the game of golf, and in 2013 launched an industry-wide initiative to bring more women into the game.¹ Why? Because girls and women are the huge opportunity for the golf industry — the more women participate, the faster the industry will evolve to make the game more female- *and* family-friendly.²

For more details about participation and season play, please join us on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 9 am at the course clubhouse.

1. From forbes.com, February 2013 story "PGA Looks to Women to Grow Golf," by Bridget Brennan.

2. www.unlockinggolfstruepotential.co.uk



FAIRWAY AND GREEN'S REPORT

By Harry Pearson

The holidays are behind us and so is the first month of 2017. What a month it was, with record rainfall and snowfall, it looks like Nor Cal is in good shape water wise. Speaking of water, I want to throw some figures at you regarding our water use.

We've been on a self-imposed mission since 2013 to conserve water. Case in point, in 2013, we used 3,938,500 cubic feet of water. A cubic foot of water is 7.48 gallons. In 2014, Bill and Scott, (CourseCo. V.P. of Agronomy), came up with an irrigation plan to conserve water and we used only 3,142,500 cubic feet that year. The water department imposed restrictions in Petaluma in 2015 and used 2013 as its baseline for a 20%

reduction. We submitted a plan to address severe reductions if they were imposed and the water dept. said that we were good with what we're doing and the plan we have in place. Of course with less irrigation, there's more brown on the course and this was impacting some areas, especially the right side of #9 fairway, past the hazard and up to the green. If you hit a shot on that right side with some right hand spin to it, it most likely would go O.B. into the range. So in 2015, we turned on a line of sprinklers on that right side that had been turned off. We changed them from full circles to half circles and that helped keep balls in bounds, that shouldn't have gone O.B. Along with turning on some sprinklers in other areas that had been turned off in 2014, it did increase our water out put in 2015 to 3,398,140 cubic ft.

So, at the end of 2015, we had a \$500 per member assessment to upgrade our almost 30yr. old irrigation system and put a new roof on the clubhouse. We purchased and had installed in the first quarter of 2016, a central radio satellite controlled computer system, which included 13 new control boxes. Irrigation times are programmed into the computer, the course is irrigated and a report on the irrigation is documented so that when Bill comes in the next morning, he can read the report and do a visual of the course to make adjustments for the next night's irrigation. This is just a thumbnail sketch of what the system can do. A huge improvement over the prior system, where someone had to go to each control box and set timers.

This, along with completing the conversion and installation of our sprinklers to a more efficient model, (465 in total over 12-15yrs., the last 108 we bought and had installed in Feb. 2016), has given Bill the ability to irrigate the course and get more water on the course in less time. He and the CourseCo guys are still learning how to maximize the efficiencies and 2017 should be even better and more efficient than 2016. Many members, in 2016, thought the course was in its best condition ever and I agree. We even used 60,000 less cubic ft. in 2016 than 2015. We would have saved even more because when we finished converting the last 108 sprinklers we kept them on. We had heavy water usage in June and July in 2016 over 2015 and so we ended up turning off about 90 sprinklers and got back on track in August. Once again in September, we used more water than in past Septembers but this was due to making sure the course was in great shape for the club championships and Goat hill tournaments that were both played that month. A rate increase took effect in June and even with all that, in 2016, we paid \$136,951.05 for water which included \$5,343.12 for sewer and \$632.64 in service charges. In 2015, we paid \$143,262.71 which included \$5,134.08 in sewer and \$616.68 in service charges. Since 2013 there has been a 28% increase in water rates and we expect another 6% rate increase in 2017. We are projecting a 2% decrease in our 2017 usage from 2016.

A footnote, when Russ Mitchell, (irrigation architect expert), gave his assessment of our irrigation system in Sept. 2015 which prompted our upgrades, he listed 5 areas we needed to upgrade. With the new computer controlled system and converting the sprinklers, we've done the first 2. The computer, satellites and controllers were done with the assessment. The cost was \$96,000 and included labor. The conversion of the sprinklers is harder to put a number on because the prices have increased over the years. I'll tell you that we've done this through our CIDM funding and we we're able to purchase the last 120 sprinklers in Jan. 2016 at a huge bulk rate, (end of the year, 2015), discount. It cost us \$21,500 for the sprinklers and another \$7,500 to have them installed. We were buying them at one or two boxes at a time for \$2,000 a box. A box contains 8 sprinklers and fittings. The 3rd thing Mr. Mitchell said was we need to re-wire all of our sprinklers individually so that we could have the ability to turn one off or on as needed. Presently, they are wired in groups of 2, 3 and 4, so if you wanted to turn one off, you'd have to do it manually at the sprinkler. He estimated that by doing this along with the first two improvements, in years of normal water usage, we would save 18-22%. This has an associated cost of \$71,500 and that was a 2015 price. Our plan for now is to monitor areas for dryness or wetness and individually wire where needed. We did this in 2016 and will do the same in 2017. We are however, planning this year in May, to do his 4th suggestion, which is to add sprinklers around the greens and separate them so that certain sprinklers will water the greens and the other ones will water the surrounds. Right now, all green side sprinklers water both greens and surrounds putting too much water in those areas.

Now I'd like to inform you of what we spent our CIDM money on in 2016. We spent a total of \$62,240.78, (which includes a \$2,000 rebate). Our budget was \$56,706. \$28,631.58 in equipment leases & the Exchange Bank loan. In addition: House and Grounds also paid an additional \$8,041.68 for their share of the Exchange Bank loan. In the Spring of 2013 we took out a \$70,000 loan to purchase 5 badly needed pieces of equipment and it was agreed at the time, that H&G and Greens would split the cost.

- \$3,200 for the removal of 3 trees to the right of #5 green. One tree fell over the fence and the two next to it were leaning towards the green and deemed a potential hazard.
- \$21,823.20 for the above mentioned 120 sprinklers.
- \$7,236.00 for the installation of 108 sprinklers.
- \$600 for the delivery of sand.
- \$1,750.40 for sod with which we rebuilt the #8/17 tee with in-house labor.
- \$1,000 for landscaping
- Total: \$64,240.78

If you deduct the \$28,631.58, we spent on equip. leases, we spent \$35,609.20 on projects of which, \$29,059.20 was spent on sprinklers and installation.

So my committee asked the board to shift equipment leases out of CIDM and into operating expenses in 2017. The board agreed to shift \$22,748.88 for the 3 equip. leases we have out of CIDM into operating but keep the Exchange Bank loan in CIDM. This will give Greens and H&G about an additional \$11,000 each to do projects. We are also now on an equipment replacement schedule and our next piece of equipment we will buy is in 2018 when the Exchange Bank loan comes off the books.

In order to accomplish this, we had to raise dues \$20 per month to cover the change and we did approve a balanced budget for 2017. On behalf of the Greens Committee, I would like to thank the membership for their understanding and let everyone know that the money will be put to good use.

We are presently cart path only at the time of this writing. It may change by the time you read this but if it doesn't, for your safety and the safety of the course, please abide by the rule.

CRAB FEED SUCCESS

By Christopher Gay

A big thank you to our Crab Feed Team: Greg Plattner, Toby Giacomini, Dick Lynch, John Figone, Roy King. We had 177 members present which is one of the largest in recent history!

WANT TO EARN A FREE MONTH OF DUES?

By Christopher Gay

Our biggest recruitment tool is our current members! Please use the guest passes you received to bring prospective members to the club! For each new member you sponsor you receive a \$295 credit. After 6 months – your sponsored member also receives \$295. It is a WIN-WIN-WIN!

BELATED VALENTINE'S MEMBER MIXER

February 24th 5:00pm – 7:00pm!

By Christopher Gay

Live music from the Lisa Stano Trio. Complimentary Champagne Tasting from Gloria Ferrer and plenty of appetizers! Of Course – we will have our infamous \$500 drawing. This event will be in the main hall so come and join the fun!! Someone in attendance will win a \$50 statement credit

Petaluma Golf and Country Club

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BELATED VALENTINES

Member Mixer

FEBRUARY 24th 2017
5:00pm - 7:00pm

Featuring:
Lisa Stano Trio

Free Gloria Ferrer Champagne Tasting
Appetizers
Our Infamous \$500 Drawing

SOCIAL EVENTS!

By Christopher Gay

We have several social events planned for the next few months. Be sure to mark on your calendars...

February 24th – Live Music Lisa Stano *Held in the Hall 5:00pm to 7:00pm*

February 25th – Wild Game Dinner. 6:00pm

March 17th – St. Patrick Dinner – Time TBD Live music by GreenHouse Celtic

March 31st – Live Music by the Incubators *Held in the Hall 5:00pm to 7:00pm*

April 16th - Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt 10:00am

May 14th – Mother's Day Brunch – *A Brunch Affair - Mimosa, Muffins and Mary's 11:00am*

EMAIL STATEMENTS!

By Christopher Gay

Do you want to receive your statement electronically? Sign-up for email statements by emailing: admin@petalumagolfandcountryclub.com. You will still receive all printed flyers and calendars with your emailed statement.

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Sunset Bar 4:30pm- 6:30pm	4 Men's Medal 8:30am Shotgun
5	6	7 <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	8	9	10 Sunset Bar 4:30pm- 6:30pm	11
12	13 SIRS 9:00 Shotgun	14 <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	15 <i>Board of Directors Meeting 6pm</i>	16	17 Sunset Bar 4:30pm- 6:30pm	18 Men's Gin Fizz 8:00am Breakfast 9:00am Shotgun
19	20	21 <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	22	23	24 Belated Valentine's Mixer Sunset Bar LIVE MUSIC 5:00pm- 7:00pm	25 Wild Game Dinner Night 6:00pm
26	27	28 <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>				

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Women's 18-Hole Group 8:15am	2 Annual Membership Meeting 5:30pm	3 Sunset Bar 5:00pm- 7:00pm	4 Men's Medal 8:30am Shotgun
5	6	7 9 Hole Women's Section 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	8 Women's 18-Hole Group 8:15am	9	10 Sunset Bar 5:00pm- 7:00pm	11
12	13	14 9 Hole Women's Section 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	15 Women's 18-Hole Group 8:15am Board of Directors Meeting 6:00pm	16	17 ST. Patrick Dinner LIVE MUSIC TIME: TBD	18
19	20	21 9 Hole Women's Section 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	22 Women's 18-Hole Group 8:15am	23	24 Sunset Bar 5:00pm- 7:00pm	25 Event in the Hall 5:00pm to 10:00pm
26	27	28 9 Hole Women's Section 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	29 Women's 18-Hole Group 8:15am	30	31 Mixer Sunset Bar LIVE MUSIC 5:00pm- 7:00pm	