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THE IMPROVED LIE

Petaluma Golf & Country Club, May 2018



President's Message

By *Harry Pearson*

March ended with the Friday Night Mixer in which Mike Robins won the first ever \$500 cash prize. I heard through the grapevine that he invested a substantial amount of his winnings back into the club via the bar. I'm not sure if this is true or a rumor started by him.

April kicked off with Easter Brunch which was attended by 172 people! I heard it went well and the only complaint was at one point there may have been some cold scrambled eggs. When the board decided to make Megan full time, we envisioned an increase in our Food & Beverage program. I met with Chris and Mike Morgan to discuss taking over the lunches for the Rotary Meetings on Thursday's and we addressed some concerns that taking over the lunches would pose. I expressed these concerns to the board and we directed Chris to meet with the Rotary and convey to them that we would do a couple of trial lunches in May and June and if it goes well, then mutually agree with Rotary to take over the lunches July 1st. Rotary has a contract with Sally Tomatoes that ends June 30th. Stay tuned.

**PG&CC
Board of
Directors**

President

Harry Pearson

Vice President

Larry Riis

Treasurer

Keith Brians

Secretary

Peter Barufkin

Director

Wayne Guptill

Director

Timo Rivetti

Director

Sue Berger

Director

Jeremy King

Director

Mike Johnson

There's been a turnover in bar personnel and so there has been a training period of new bartenders so please be a little patient as the new staff gets up to speed.

I sat in on the House & Grounds meeting and also the meeting with the architect who showed some new concepts for the bar renovation. Mark Smith and his committee asked the architect to redo the drawings to reflect the changes they wanted. Stay tuned. H&G has also done some much needed work you won't see, like pouring a cement pad and wall under the clubhouse to house the drink containers that feed the bar and take them off of the dirt and onto the pad, pouring a cement pad to put the garbage and grease containers on that are outside of the kitchen and putting a new hardwood floor and carpeting outside of the office. They're also going to put in a hardwood floor in the entrance to the Hall which will match the floor in the Hall and finish some work on the pool bathrooms.

On a bitter/sweet note, the board of directors has unanimously approved the selection of our new Head Pro/G.M. His name is John Theilade, (pronounced Thigh-lade), and he comes to us with an extensive resume as a Head Pro and General Manger in the golf industry.

While the bitter is losing Chris Gay who has been instrumental in transforming our club into a thriving golf and social club and deserves to be promoted as The General Manger of Foxtail, the sweet will be having someone like John with his tons of experience who wants to get back to hands on type of duties instead of just managing a bunch of department heads. He has a Business Degree from the University of Washington and PGA Business School I & II degrees along with teaching credentials. He has been a contestant in the Hogan/PGA Tour and other Professional Tournaments throughout the Pacific Northwest, Hawaii, Arizona and California. He started as an Assist Pro at 'The Boulders Club' in Arizona. He has been The Director of Golf at 'Toana Vista Golf Club', 'Alameda Golf Club', and 'Oakmont'. He has been The General Manager at 'Bishop Country Club', 'Fountaingrove', 'Foxtail, (when it was run by American Golf), 'Tilden Park' and is presently The General Manager at 'Oakmont'.

When we were first told by CourseCo of Chris being promoted and there would be a national search for his replacement, as stated in a prior article we met with CourseCo to ask questions, give concerns and get answers. We told them to err on a stronger business side candidate as opposed to one who may be stronger as a golf pro. They were totally on board and even suggested that we do this. We all agreed that it would be great to have a business manager and a Head Pro but in our unique situation it would be cost prohibitive, so the best route is to find one person who can fill that role. John can fill that role.

With our Food & Beverage Program and Social activities at a premium for our membership it is imperative that someone know how to manage it efficiently. Our total Operating Budget for the Club is around \$1,700,000. John had two Food & Beverage programs at Oakmont; Banquets & Weddings with a budget of \$800,000 and the restaurant with \$970,000. While we had 172 people at Easter, Oakmont, (a retirement community), had 400. My point is with the smaller structure we have here, John will be able to be directly involved.

Other concerns we expressed were our Junior Golf Program, Women's Golf and mentoring our Assistant Professional Stevan so that he can grow into a job like ours in a few years. John has been involved with Junior Golf at his other clubs and believe it or not, Oakmont has a Junior Golf Program. John talked about how he wants to be involved with the Ladies golf and hopefully get more women involved and he said that all he needs in regards to mentoring, is a willing participant.

Terese Thomas along with Darcy, (Administration), graciously, are planning a Farewell/Chris, Hello/John social, tentatively scheduled for Friday June 1st. It will be a member cooking affair with members also contributing salads. Probably no charge so keep an eye out for more info. Terese is putting together a group so if you're interested, you can contact her to see if she needs anything.

Finally, the tournament schedule, (Men's, Women's, Saturday Sweeps-Sleep City Cup, Vartnaw and Goat Hill), have been moving dates like the stock market going up and down. I want to thank everyone for their patience and cooperation. This will be a one-time aberration. The reasons for the changes were trying to select dates that make The Goat Hill more attractive and boost the participation in this event. This is our Men's Member/Guest and the numbers have been dwindling. Traditionally held towards the end of June, participation went down, so it was moved to the beginning of June, no increase, then I think they tried July, (no change) and now they're trying September. We decided to move up the Fall aeration to the middle of September. This obstructed several already planned events. Check with the clubhouse on these dates. I say that it's a one year aberration because next January, all the chairman of all the tournaments, the Head Pro and the Head Supt. will sit down with a calendar and figure it out. I hope.



PG&CC History – Part 2

By Keith Brians

Work on the golf course began Saturday, May 20 1922, under the supervision of golf architect William Locke, who had participated in the site selection in March. Red flags were used to indicate the location of each tee and green flags for each green. Work on the gravel road to the site was already in progress under the supervision of the contractor, S. E. Adams. By June 10, improvements to the road were nearly complete and sheep were put on the course to take care of the mowing.

The first golf in Petaluma was played on June 18, 1922 when the club president George. P. McNear tried out the new course in its rough state on its temporary greens. Through the summer work continued on the course building the permanent greens and tee boxes. Ten thousand feet of water pipe and a pressure system were installed to connect to the city main on McNear Avenue. H.C. Scrutton, who was also a member of the Meadow Club in Fairfax, organized the work laying out the course under Mr. Locke's supervision. In addition, work was nearing completion on the new shop and a store house by local contractor, Frank Emenegger.

The first golf instructor and grounds custodian, Thomas Leuchars, arrived with his family in mid-August and settled in a small cottage not too far from the course. He went to work to finalize work on five greens and the remaining aspects of the course and to get ready to instruct beginning members in the game of golf.

The Petaluma Golf and Country Club held its formal opening on Sunday, September 24, 1922, after being rescheduled from Sunday, September 17, 1922, due to a conflict with the Elks Club's Oyster Bust, as many members belonged to both clubs. Nearly 350 people attended the opening and at 1 o'clock were served an elaborate luncheon al fresco.

After the luncheon, everyone gathered at the first tee (present day third). The father of the club and its greatest benefactor and enthusiast, George P. McNear, hit the first drive. Tom Leuchars, the club's professional hit the second and H.P. Scrutton the third. Mrs. A. L. Phillips was the first female member to drive and Mrs. H.P. Scrutton the second. After the ceremony, many of the crowd played a round while others observed. Many present had never been to a golf course nor seen a game of golf, prompting many questions. Nor had many in the crowd been up May's hill and they were astonished by the work already completed and unable to believe they were in Petaluma. The panoramic views the site afforded and its beauty were lauded. Later in the afternoon, plans were presented regarding the financing of the club house and other improvements. Mr. McNear announced an additional gift of approximately 20 acres bringing the total to 100 acres, laughingly saying that he had kept this splendid piece of property for 40 years just for use as a golf and country club.



Fairway's and Green's Report

By Harry Pearson

The late rains really helped the course and our water bill. However, the aeration of the greens had to be delayed from April 16th until April 30th because of the amount of rain we received on the 16th and then some tournaments needed to be completed.

I received questions and comments on why the greens were slow in early April, so I confirmed the reasons with Bill Maeder, our Head Superintendent. A week to five days before aeration is to be done, fertilizers are put on the greens to make them grow and then we stop using growth regulators. This is done to optimize growing conditions for the aeration, hence the slower greens. Since the aeration was put off, the greens picked up some speed but the same process was done again prior to the April 30th aeration.

The irrigation project around the greens was completed within the first 10 days of April, on budget. This project addresses the fourth suggestion presented to us by the irrigation architect we hired back in 2015 to assess our irrigation system. He gave us five recommendations and we have completed 3 of the 5; installing a computerized central control and radio linked satellite controllers at approximately \$100,000, (done through assessment); replace approximately 160 existing outdated sprinklers, (done through the Greens Committee's portion of CIDM over several years which we had planned and budgeted for through our 5yr.plan at approximately \$80,000 overall), and the above mentioned greenside sprinkler project which we planned and budgeted for with our 2017 and 2018 CIDM monies at approximately \$40,000. This step should really help the efficiency of the irrigation of the greens and surrounds.

The two recommendations we haven't done are; installing new control wire along the main line between the controller locations, (boxes) and the isolation valves which are located on the fairways to provide single sprinkler control. The wiring we have now turns on the sprinklers 2, 3, or 4 sprinklers at a time thus causing inefficient irrigation and constant wet or dry spots depending on the coverage. We have been monitoring this for two years and will monitor it again this year. Our present plan is to address single control of the sprinklers that are causing constant problems. To do the whole course is approximately \$80,000.

The last recommendation was to replace each existing valve which are all originals put in in 1989. We have about 100 valves on the course and our plan is to replace them as needed.

The 4th tee has been sodded and should be ready to go by mid May.

We've been seeing a lot of carts parked behind greens, next to greens and this is just a reminder, if you need to park like this due to a disability, please ask the Pro for a flag to put on the cart indicating the special need.

I feel like the course is going to be in its best shape ever during the prime golfing season, so please come up and enjoy your course.

Questions, suggestions, comment, complaints, etc can be emailed to me at; hp1852@yahoo.com.

Thanks



Men's Tournaments

By Nick Smith

Congratulations to:

Larry Rodd for winning our Men's Medal

Jack Berlin for winning our 1-Man Scramble

Check out these upcoming events!

May 5th – Men's Medal!

May 19th – Young vs Old

June 2nd - Men's Medal

June 23rd – Vartnaw – Member Member

June 30th – Start of our Match Play event – get ready for the Club Championship

Save the Date: The Goat Hill Invitational (Member Guest) September 7, 8, & 9



Ladies 9-Hole

By Lois Skarsten

The golf season is here and the 9-Hole Ladies are in full swing!

We offer an open invitation to all women members of PG&CC regardless of ability.

Play a few holes or just join us for a drink after the round. We play at 9am and are back at the club around 11:30am.

Come and socialize! See you there!

18-Hole Women's Section

By Eileen Ostroff

This past month we played our annual **Tish Battaglia Memorial Match Play Tournament**. A big thank you to the Battaglia family for sponsoring her tournament.

When all was said and done the winners are:

First Flight: **Sandy King**

Second Flight: **Brenda Roberts**

Consolation Flight: **Ruth Giacomini**

Coming up for May we're looking forward to **Ostroff ECC**. If you are playing at all in May you can play in the tournament, it takes just one game to win!! Sign up on TeamSnap



Head Golf Professional / General Manager Report

By Christopher Gay

The rains have stopped and the golf course is recovering from aeration. It won't be long until the course is in perfect shape for the season.

Here are some club updates – please take note:

On-Course Porto-Potty. We ordered a part to fix the light and fan; however, it did not do the trick. We are still investigating why the light and fan are not coming on and hopefully we will have a fix soon. During this time, the porto-potty is operational.

Little Hitters Clinic: May 5th and May 6th 11:00am to 11:30am For the little ones ages 3-6 years old. This very basic clinic is designed to show juniors and parents how to hold the club and have fun. Clinic includes putting, hitting golf balls, cartoon cutouts, hitting marshmallows and stickers! Parents are required to stay during the clinic. Fee is \$15.

North Bay League and PGA Junior League! This is your final call to sign up for these programs! Please call 707.762.1057 or email cgay@petalumagolfandcountryclub.com to sign up! Deadline is May 8th at 5pm. Signing up after this is possible but we will have trouble getting uniforms before matches begin. More information can be found online at petalumagolfandcountryclub.com

Summer Concert Series: May 25th with Vintage Grass kicks off our concert series! For 2018, we will have more reasons for you to come to the club! List of Performances:

May 25th Vintage Grass

June 15th Glen Carter

June 22nd Lorin Lowry (Vartnaw Pre-Tournament Party)

June 29th Lorin Lowry

July 13th Ruby Fradkin

July 27th Elaine Ryan

August 17th Ruby Fradkin

Construction Begins on Main Hall. We will renovate the main entry way by installing hardwood floors, this will take place May 14th through May 18th. During this time the hall will not be usable as there will be a lot of hammering. As we get closer to the date look for more information via email and signs.

Pool Opening: The timeframe for the pool opening is dependent on a number of things but mainly the weather. Since the pool is solar heated we need warm days and not so cold nights. We will be bringing our system online the week of May 14 which means the solar will be turned on, filters changed, chlorine levels are brought up to allow members to use the pool. We will also need to fix any leaks that spring up over the course of the winter. Please adhere to the “Pool Closed Sign” as we prep the system we use strong chemicals to clean and purge the pool system. As soon as the pool is ready to go – we will send an email to the membership.

Pool Parties: As a reminder here is our pool party policy.

- Only Certificate members are permitted to host pool parties. Fees: \$10 per person
- Pool Party requests need approval from the General Manager at membership@petalumagolfandcountryclub.com
- Pool Parties are permitted between 5/15 through 6/30.
- Pool Parties cannot be held on Weekends or Holidays
- Only 1 Pool Party per Week Day except from 5/30 to 6/9 there can be up to 2 parties per week.
- The time limit for Pool Parties is no more than 3 hours.
- All Pool Parties must be from 10am to 3:00pm
- Maximum number of kids is 15 (16 and under)
- Total number of people: 25
- A pool party is defined as a group of 6 or more non-members accompanying a member.
- Non-member parties are not permitted.
- Pool Parties must hire a certified lifeguard which must be present for the entire party. PG&CC will arrange for lifeguards at the following rates:
 - Fees for per hours:
 - 1 Lifeguard (15 Swimmers) \$25.00
- All pool parties are non-exclusive and will be shared with other members.
- All beverages must be purchase from Petaluma Golf and Country Club.

Mother’s Day Brunch: Take your mom to the club! May 13th at 11:00am for our champagne brunch. See flyer for more information!

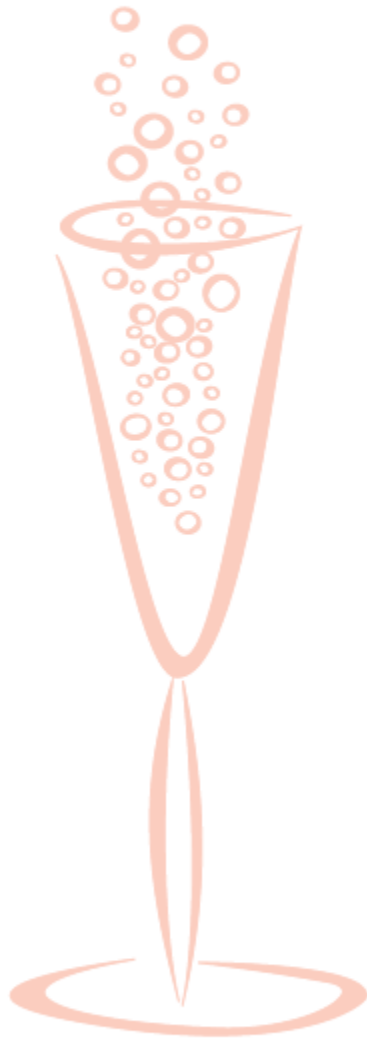
I will see everyone at the Club – Thanks!



MOTHER'S DAY

Champagne Brunch

SUNDAY, MAY 13TH, 2018 | 11:00AM



Includes:

Roast Beef Carving Station

French Toast

Cheesy Potatoes

Spring Salad

Caesar Salad

Fruit Platter

Pastries

Coffee Station

w/ Fun Kids Table

ADULTS **\$39.99**

JUNIORS (7-14) **\$15.99**

CHILDREN 6 & UNDER FREE

RSVP Required, Please Call (707)762-7041



BLUEGRASS NIGHT

LIVE MUSIC PERFORMED BY *Vintage Grass*

FRIDAY MAY 25th
5:30PM - 7:30PM

Appetizers from 5:00pm-7:30pm
Bring a guest! Kid-Friendly

We will have our infamous \$500 DRAWING

For more information call: (707) 762-7041
www.petalumagolfandcountryclub.com

Petaluma Golf & Country Club | 1500 Country Club Dr | Petaluma, CA



NCGA Tournament Club Qualifiers

Club will pay all regional and Championship fees

ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Club Dates Qualifying Anytime between 3/3 to 3/16. \$10 Entry.
Regional Tournament: 4/9-4/10
Championship: 8/27-8/28

FOUR-BALL NET CHAMPIONSHIP

Club Dates Qualifying Anytime between 4/16 to 4/27. \$10 Entry.
Regional Tournament: 5/24
Championship: 6/18 and 6/19

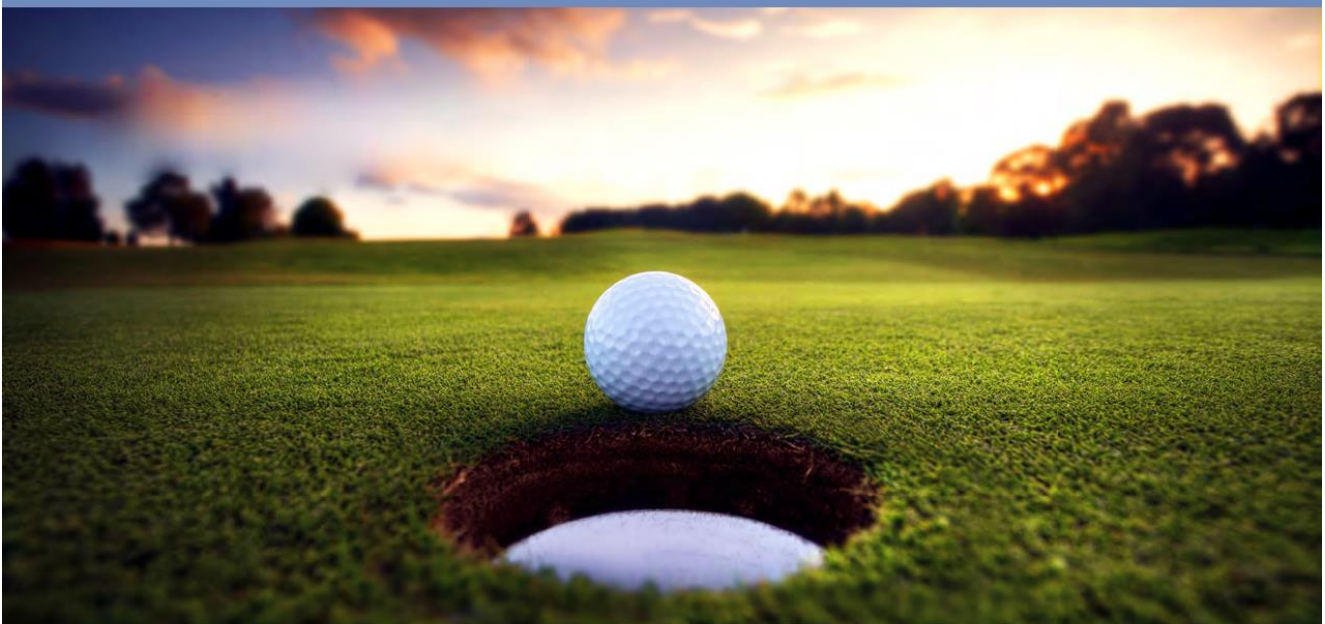
SENIOR FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Club Dates Qualifying Anytime between 6/30 to 7/13. \$10 Entry.
Regional Tournament: 8/8
Championship: 9/10 to 9/11

NET AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Club Dates Qualifying Anytime between 8/4 to 8/17. \$10 Entry.
Regional Tournament: 9/13
Championship: 10/15 & 10/16

Please sign up by calling 707.762.7041 or by alerting the golf shop staff prior to teeing off.



1500 Country Club Dr | Petaluma, CA 94952 | www.petalumagolfandcountryclub.com

MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Ladies 9 Hole Golf – 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	2 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am	3	4 Happy Hour 5:30pm- 7:30pm	5 Men's Medal PGA and North Bay League Practice 4pm
6	7 SIRS 8am – 2pm	8 Ladies 9 Hole Golf – 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	9 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am	10	11 Happy Hour 5:30pm- 7:30pm	12 PGA and North Bay League Practice 4pm
13 Mother's Day Brunch	14 SIRS 8am – 2pm	15 Ladies 9 Hole Golf 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	16 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am Board of Directors Meeting 6:00pm	17	18 Happy Hour 5:30pm- 7:30pm	19 Men's Young vs Old Tournament 8:30am Event in Hall 5:00pm PGA and North Bay League Practice 4pm
20	21 Event in Hall 6:00pm Sponsor: Donna Beels	22 Ladies 9 Hole Golf 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	23 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am	24	25 Happy Hour and LIVE MUSIC with Vintage Grass 5:30pm- 7:30pm	26 PGA and North Bay League Practice 4pm
27	28	29 Ladies 9 Hole Golf 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	30 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am	31		

JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Chris' Farewell Party and Welcome John Party 5:30pm	2 Men's Medal Event in the Hall 4:00pm. Sponsoring member Bonnie Williams
3	4	5 Ladies 9 Hole Golf 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	6 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am	7 Home and Home vs SRGCC at Santa Rosa PGA and North Bay League Practice 12pm	8 Happy Hour 5:30pm-7:30pm	9 PGA Junior Match 3:00pm Event in the Hall 5:30pm
10	11	12 Ladies 9 Hole Golf 9am Egg Basket Cocktail Party 6:00pm Pool Closes at 4pm <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	13 Women 18 Hole 40 th Annual Egg Basket Member Guest Tournament 7:30am Meet 8:15 Shotgun	14 Home and Home vs SRGCC at Petaluma PGA and North Bay League Practice 12pm	15 Happy Hour with LIVE MUSIC with Glen Carter 5:30pm- 7:30pm	16
17	18	19 Ladies 9 Hole Golf 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	20 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am <i>Board Meeting 6:00pm</i>	21 PGA and North Bay League Practice 12pm	22 Vartnaw Pre-Party – all members invited 5:30pm- 7:30pm Live Music 5:30pm to 7:30pm	23 Men's "The Vartnaw" Member Member 8:30am Start PGA Junior Match 3:00pm
24	25 SIRS 8am – 2pm	26 Ladies 9 Hole Golf 9am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	27 Women 18 Hole Group 7:45am	28 PGA and North Bay League Practice 12pm	29 Happy Hour with LIVE MUSIC with Lorin Lowry 5:30pm- 7:30pm	30 Men's Match Play Begins PGA Junior Match 3:00pm