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THE IMPROVED LIE

Petaluma Golf & Country Club, November 2018



President's Message

By Harry Pearson

We're moving into the Holiday Season and we have a new Pro! On behalf of the membership I would like to welcome Jeff Hwang who is a Level 2 Pro which means he is certified to give lessons. He is a short step away from a PGA Pro. Jeff's last assignment was at Old Greenwood, just outside of Truckee. If you've been there, then you know what a great course it is with an outstanding practice facility. They have an Annika Sorenstam Golf Academy on site. Jeff's duties will be to handle; golf operations; Junior Golf; golf programming; retail and lessons. So whether you need a swing overhaul or a minor tune up, make an appointment with Jeff and put him to the test.

A lot went on in October, with the Women's 18 and 9 hole Club Championships contested. Congratulations to the 18 hole Women's Club Champion; Claudia Little; the 18 hole Women's 1st Flight Winner; Eileen Ostroff and the Women's 9 hole Champion; Dale O'Conner. Well done ladies.

The Ryder Cup was played and this time, Team U.S.A. behind Team Captain Mark Jennings was victorious. Condolences to the Euro Team and their Team Captain, Timo Rivetti. Better luck next year. Great job, Travis for running the tournament and also the tournament directors, Nick Smith and Larry Riis. A special, well done to Megan who provided a fantastic lunch.

There were about 60 adults and children that attended the Coco movie night. Movie nights are a great family event as Travis, and Chris before him, make it a fun time. The October Friday Night Mixer/Halloween Costume Contest brought out a good crowd of about 50 adults and 20 children. Unfortunately, the name selected was not in attendance and November's drawing will be for \$1,100. Wouldn't be a bad way to start the Christmas Season.

The 9 hole Women's group had their golf outing at Bennett Valley Golf Course on Oct. 29th and the 18 hole Women's group had their 'Captain's Day' event on Oct. 31st.

The following events are being held in November:

The Fall Back Bash is being held on Saturday, November 3rd. This is a fundraiser for our Jr. Golf Program. I had to submit this article prior to the event taking place, so I will have a report on the event in December's issue of The 'Improved Lie'.

We have an 'away' golf date scheduled for Silverado on Nov. 6th. These 'away' dates are open to anyone who signs up on the 'signup' sheet in the binder located at the bar.

The 'Brixx Extreme' Golf Tournament will be held on Nov. 14th. And again, anyone can sign up on the above mentioned 'signup' sheet. Beware, this is a 9 hole event, gross score only and the pins are in places that can make grownups cry.

The monthly board meeting has been changed from Nov. 21st to Nov. 28th @ 6pm. The reason for the change is because the 21st is the night before Thanksgiving.

Our G.M., Travis has sent out information on how to run for or to nominate someone to run for the Board of Directors. We will have three vacancies to be filled. The filing deadline is Nov. 21st, 5pm. Ballots with candidates name will be sent out to the membership in December and the election takes place the first Monday of January. The 'Elected' will take office at the January board meeting.

Friday, November 16th will be the date of our next 'Friday Night Mixer'. Maybe you'll win the Grand Prize of \$1,100 you must be present to win.

I did not submit a 'Greens' article this month as we didn't meet in October. We are meeting on Nov.7th and will be discussing the feasibility of hiring an Asst. Superintendent. We have discussed this many times in the past and at one time several years ago, we hired an assistant. He left to become a Head Supt. at a local course. We then hired an entry level 'Fairway' crew person with the intention of grooming him to be an assistant but he left for a better paying job. The purpose of hiring an assistant is to get Bill some help and have someone be in charge and see that things get done when Bill is off premise. We've asked CourseCo to get us some salary numbers for this position to see if we can fit it into our Operating Budget for 2019. CourseCo, with input from the board, starts developing the 2019 budget about the second week of November. We also have a couple of pieces of equipment that are scheduled to be replaced in 2019. This also is an Operating Budget issue. I would like to pass on a note to the membership which was given to me. It's from Londyn who is one of our bartenders.

**PG&CC Board
of Directors**

President
Harry Pearson

Vice President
Larry Riis

Treasurer
Keith Brians

Secretary
Michael Johnson

Director
Wayne Guptill

Director
Timo Rivetti

Director
Sue Berger

Director
Jeremy King

Director
Brenda Roberts

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to thank everyone at Petaluma Golf and Country Club for welcoming me into their family up on the hill. I have found so much joy throughout so many facets of this job, and I couldn't have asked for a better clientele to develop a new skill around. That being said, I must give my two weeks' notice as it is time for me to move on and take what the future has to offer me. I appreciate all that the members and the staff have done for me, and all the support I have been shown through a six month period that has been challenging for all of us.

*Thank you,
Londyn 10/21/18.*

Londyn and Tiffany, (bartenders); Darcy, (Admin.); Megan, (Food & Beverage) and of course Chris who was doing double duty at our club and Foxtail, were the heart & soul in keeping our club functioning during the turbulence of our Pro/GM and Assist. Pro's resignations this summer. They went above and beyond in making sure our needs were met. So on behalf of the membership, I'm thanking all of them again and wishing Londyn the best of luck in her journey.

For all of our members and their families, and the employees who work at PGCC, please have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.



PG&CC History – Part 7

By Keith Brians

Play Continues 2

George Ritchie, the Olympic Club champion, was back on January 22, 1925 to play with the pro, Tom Leuchars, Eric Nisson and Gus Lee from Santa Rosa. Ritchie shot an eighteen-hole course record of two under par 70, with 33 on the front nine and 37 on the back. In February, heavy rains forced the course's closure for a week as fairways were too wet to mow and greens were very soft. The tournament season opened on March 20 and the schedule listed 23 men's and women's events for the remainder of the year. Special events and tournaments were planned for nearly every weekend, except to the vacation months of July and August. The club house was also getting good use hosting bridge tournaments, tea parties, always described as "brilliant," and private parties, as well as club activities.

In April, the Petaluma Power & Water Company had a large workforce extending the water main from J Street to Mountain View Avenue along the line of the yet to be completed extension of Sixth Street to Mountain View. The work was costly because the pipe was laid at a depth of eleven feet at the top of the hill. As a result of the new line, the club was able to secure a larger supply of water on its completion than had been available to it from its original line from Petaluma Boulevard South.

The first round of the Sonoma County Team championship featuring Santa Rosa, Healdsburg and Petaluma teams and played on Sunday, April 12, at the Healdsburg course was won by Santa Rosa. The course was reported to be in poor shape: the greens were rough and slow and the fairways poorly mowed, as acknowledged by the Healdsburg club. The games were followed by refreshments on a large platform deck overlooking the beautiful countryside resulting in a very pleasant day for all.

On Wednesday May 13, Mrs. Lumsden defeated Mrs. Hart 2-1 in the women's Scrutton Cup tournament. Play in the club championship and for the McNear Cup began Sunday, May 17 with eight of the contestants in gross play advancing to the next round. H.C. Scrutton led the qualifiers with a 79. The course was reported to have been in its best shape ever. The greens were closely mown and rolling well, the fairways green and the rough mown to a manageable height.

The first club championship was won by H.C. Scrutton on June 14, 1925. Scrutton beat Ellis Hart 10 up with 9 to go ending the 36-hole match on the 27th hole. Scrutton shot 37, 38 and 38 on the first three nines to Hart's 45, 41 for his first two rounds, his third round score being reported as "being worse than the first two."

In December, the pro, Tom Leuchers, announced that he would be leaving the club on January 1, 1926 for a position at the Eureka club, known as one of the finest clubs on the coast. Leuchers was well regarded by the membership, and members supported his decision to secure a better position with a larger club in a larger community.

New Year's Eve 1925 ended with one of the largest parties yet seen at the club. Over 200 guests from Petaluma as well as Santa Rosa, Sebastopol and Healdsburg enjoyed dinner parties at local homes or at the Hotel Petaluma where 100 couples ate. Music for dancing was provided by Jewitt's Society orchestra. The young musicians, none over 17 and all born and reared in Petaluma, delighted the crowd. When the clock struck midnight, balloons were released and horns blown to welcome the New Year. After midnight, a buffet supper was served which was followed by breakfast near dawn.

The schedule for 1926 listed 25 events between March 1 and October 24, with no events scheduled during July or August. The social side of the club was not lacking. On February 13, 1926, over 100 members and guests, including a number from Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club, were served dinner between 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. followed by bridge from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the festively decorated hall. Music was again provided by Jewitt's Society orchestra. As usual, the Argus reported the event "surpassed a brilliancy and enjoyment anything yet given at the club house of the Petaluma Golf and Country"

On February 16, John Grady, the new professional arrived. Grady's services in repairing clubs were greatly needed and the members received him well. Playing with the locals, Grady demonstrated his ball striking abilities and his length off the tee. Mr. Grady maintained regular hours between 10 and 11 a.m. to taking telephone calls and visits.

As in previous winters, the soggy condition of the course in February made play difficult. The ninth fairway couldn't be mowed and many balls were lost. Opening day for the new season was Sunday, March 7. A special program was staged with a driving competition and a demonstration by Gus Leavitt of how to eliminate all bad shots. Forty-nine golfers watched a George P. McNear drove the first ball and missed badly. A second ball hit well out into the fairway succeeded in demonstrating his ability. Mr. Leavitt's demonstration of how to eliminate all bad shots consisted of a balloon with the inscription "All Bad Shots" on it. Leavitt placed the balloon on a tee, took a mighty swing and missed the balloon to the great amusement of the 49 golfers watching. A second attempt burst the balloon, but did little to improve the players' scores.

The second round of the county golf tournament was played Sunday, April 18, and resulted in a narrow victory over Santa Rosa and Healdsburg. With each team fielding 8 players, the two rounds totals were Petaluma 740, Santa Rosa 742 and Healdsburg 755. The ladies of the club served lunch to over 110 persons.



Men's Tournaments

By Nick Smith

October Medal Results:

1st Place – Rick Mossi (39 stableford points)

T2nd Place – Jon Banister (37 points)

T2nd Place – Jack Berlin (37 places)

Great Upcoming Events:

Brixx Extreme November 14th

Turkey Shootout November 22nd

Men's Medal December 1st

18-Hole Women's Section

By Eileen Ostroff

So October flew past! We had our three week **Championship** with the winner being the best 2 out of three weeks.

Championship Flight (gross score)

Claudia Little

First Flight: (net score)

Eileen Ostroff (thank you very much!)

Terese Thomas

Virginia Silacci was low gross in this flight

October 31st was our **Captains Day** a big **thanks** to **Ruth Giacomini**, our retiring Captain. Deborah Statton, provided our lunch. Thanks to both for taking care of us during the season! We all went home with our prizes for throughout the year.

Our new board was welcomed in:

Captain: Brenda Roberts

Co-captain: Kelly Downing

Treasure: Terese Thomas

Tournaments: Dea Stiegner & Lois Skarsten

Open Days: Eileen Ostroff

Lunch Reservation: Laurie Leask

Handicap & Rules Diane Tucker

In the meantime, we're busy organizing for our **Holiday Cocktail Party, December 5, 2018** from 4PM to 7PM Mark your calendars to save the date. All women are welcome and are encouraged to bring a female friend. Look for notices throughout the clubhouse with information on signing-up.



9-Hole Petaluma Chicks

By Lois Skarsten

We finished our season Tuesday with a luncheon and awards. Tournament winners were: Brenda Roberts won the Fran EC, Lois Skarsten won the Corda EC and Most Improved. Our Champions are: Brenda Roberts is Golfer of the Year and our Club Champion is Dale O'Connor. Well done ladies!!

Our season starts March 5, 2019. All women club members can join with or without a handicap. Beginning golfers are encouraged to join to learn/ improve your game.

Hope to see you on the course.

Socials

NOVEMBER 16: Member Social! Live Music by Aaron Linkin 5:30pm to 7:30pm. With special menu. Don't forget our BOUNTY drawing could be up to \$1,100.

DECEMBER 7: Movie Night! Polar Express. Meet the Conductor from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. Special Menu will be available starting at 4:30pm.

DECEMBER 9: Santa Brunch. Brunch starts at 11am. Santa arrives at 12pm. Reservations required.

DECEMBER 14: Member Social! Live Music by Miles Mckenzie 5:30pm to 7:30pm. With special menu. Don't forget our BOUNTY drawing could be up to \$1,200.



The Bounty

AT PETALUMA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

YOUR NIGHT TO WIN BIG!

"The Bounty" is PG&CC's infamous Social Night and Monthly Drawing for at least \$500! On these social nights we have live music and special appetizers!

\$1.1K

CASH PRIZE

Increases \$100 each month
when no winner is present.

Rules:

- Must be Present to Win
- The drawing can occur anytime during the Social Night
- The Social Night is from 5:30pm to 7:30pm
- Members are encouraged to bring a guest!

Past Non-Winners:

Bryce and Nicole Pattison; Charles and Lee Stephens; Jeremy King; Darrel Freitas

The Bounty dates:

3/30, 4/27, 5/25, 6/29, 7/27, 8/31, 9/28, 10/26, 11/16 & 12/14

For more information or to sign up please call (707) 762-7041

NOVEMBER 2018

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

02

03

Men's Medal

Happy Hour
5:00pm-7:00pm

Fall Back Bash
6:00 – 11:30

04

05

06

07

08

09

10

Event in the Hall
2:30 – 5:30
Sponsoring
Member
Collins

Golf Outing @
Silverado

Men's Twilight
Dinner

Greens and
Fairways Meeting
5:00pm

Event in the Hall
8:00 – 3:00
Sponsoring Member
Isaak

Happy Hour
5:00pm-7:00pm

Event in the Hall
5:30 – 11:00
Sponsoring
Member
Giacomini

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

SIRS
8am – 2pm

Men's Twilight
Dinner

Brix Extreme
1pm

House and
Grounds Meeting
5:00pm

Social Mixer
'\$1.1K Bounty'
5:30pm – 8:30pm

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

SIRS
8am – 2pm

Men's Twilight
Dinner

Happy
Thanksgiving

Men's Turkey
Shootout

Club Closes at
1pm



Happy Hour
5:00pm-7:00pm

Wedding in the
Hall 6:00 – 11:00
Sponsoring
Member Kvalheim

25

26

27

28

29

30

Meeting in the
Hall 5:00 – 8:00
Non-Member
Event

Men's Twilight
Dinner

Board Meeting
6:00pm

Happy Hour
5:00pm-7:00pm