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THE IMPROVED LIE

Petaluma Golf & Country Club, September 2016

9-HOLE LADIES REPORT

By Sandra Messer



Up, Up, and Away Goes August

With great weather for play and five weeks of Tuesdays, the Petaluma Chicks enjoyed some golf! Without further ado, we add Lois Skarsten to the list of players who will vie for Golfer of the Year. Our second tournament of the season, Corda EC was handily won by Dervila Settles. Brenda Roberts came out ahead of the pack in our last Tuesday low net round, and parred three holes to boot!

We even celebrated National Golf Month and learning a few great facts about this long-lived sport.

**PG&CC
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Directors**

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Director
Harry Pearson

GREEN'S COMMITTEE REPORT

By Harry Pearson

On behalf of the Green's Committee, I want to express condolences to the Fauss Family and Friends at PG&CC on the passing of Barney. Barney was a long time and well respected member of PG&CC and certainly won his share of '31' games. We share in the Fauss Family's loss.

I'd also like to, on behalf of the Green's Committee, welcome all the new members we've recently gained. We have gained a returning member like John Ryan, generational members like the Morris, Leask and Haynes children and a lot of members with young families. Sorry if I've missed anyone. I hope all of you use the club, enjoy it and get involved. This is how we'll sustain and improve PG&CC.

With all of the new members that have joined in the past few months, I'm going to give an overview of the Greens Committee, who we are, what we do and how we are funded. This is something I've done periodically in the past. I believe in keeping the members informed and being transparent.

The Greens Committee is made up of member volunteers who liaison between the Head Superintendent, (Bill Maeder), and the Board of Directors. There are seven of us; Keith Brians, Charly Freeman, Tom Isaak, Steve Lambert, Mark Nizibian, Larry Riis and myself. Steve is the newest member, replacing longtime member, Bob Spurgeon, this last year.

As stated above, we work with the Board of directors, Bill and CourseCo members, Chanaan Fasanello, (Head Supt. at Foxtail), and Scott Wackowski who is the Vice President of Agronomy for the CourseCo properties. They are very involved in our operation and are a great asset to Bill.

We plan short term and long term projects using a 5 year plan. Areas we plan for are: Cart path maintenance and construction: We began changing cart paths from asphalt to concrete around 2000. This is a very expensive project and though we had planned for it to be totally completed a few years ago, due to other priorities that popped up on the golf course, we've had to delay it. We need to complete #7, part of #8 and all of #9. We are getting an estimate update from our contractor and I'll let you know what it is when I get it. Tree removal & replacement: We budget each year for removal. Most of the trees were planted around the same time, 60 years ago, and within the last couple of years, we've had an arborist come out and give us an assessment. Most of the trees have between 10-20 yrs. left and when we have tree cutters come out it is very expensive for the work. An example; we had 3 trees cut down to the right of #5 green this year, due to one falling over the boundary fence and the other two leaning towards the green. It

was \$3,500 for this work. We budget each year for tree replacement and it costs about \$600-800 for replacement trees. We also have a 'Memorial Tree' program. If a member wants to honor a loved one whom has passed away, they can purchase a tree through this program. The donor, Bill, Chris and the Greens Committee will come to a mutual agreement on where to plant the tree. The honoree's name is added to the plaque in the clubhouse and a photo will be taken and put into our photo book which can be viewed at the clubhouse. See Chris for details on the program. Bunker renovations: We removed a bunker this year that was on the left side

of #1 fairway about 40 yards from the green and reconstructed the green side bunker at #7 green. This was done in-house which lessened the expense. We continuously replace sand all year. We have 19 more bunkers that could use reconstruction, new liners and better drainage. Tee renovation: this year the fairways crew did a great job on renovating #8 and #17 tee. This was in-house at about \$3,000. We would like to level out more tees and maybe add a few. Landscaping: We budget for this each year. We're presently trying to re-grow the ice plant near #10 & #14 tees. Drainage: This is done in-house and although over the years the crew has done a tremendous job, we still need more on the gully that runs from #5 through #2, #1, and #9. Irrigation: Last year we hired an irrigation design expert to assess our system. He was the same expert who designed the originally installed system in 1989-90. He came up with 6 suggestions:

1. Install a computerized central control and radio linked satellite controllers. This was done late last year, early this year through a \$500 member assessment. Now when Bill comes to work, he can assess the course's irrigation needs through a visual observation and readout from the computer on the night before irrigation readings. He can then make adjustments to the program at the central computer located at the maintenance yard or even from home on his mobile device. He used to have to do a visual inspection and then go to each control box on the course, (13 in total), and make adjustments at the boxes.
2. Replace 160 outdated sprinklers. We replaced 112 this year through Capitol Improvement Deferred Maintenance, (CIDM), which I'll explain further in the article. The others have been turned off. About 15 yrs. ago, we began replacing the sprinklers that had been installed in the original 1989-90 installation with a more efficient model. Sprinklers have about a 15 year life span. There are 565 sprinklers on the course and we've replaced a total of 470 over the 15 yrs. The non-replaced sprinklers have been turned off the last few years to save costs. As of last year, it cost \$2,000 for a box of 8 sprinklers. As you can see, it's very expensive to do a major replacement. The 120 sprinklers we purchased through CIDM was an end of the year special that cost \$21,500 and another \$7,500 to install. We budget for irrigation every year.
3. Install new control wire from the isolation valves to the controllers to provide individual sprinkler control. This was estimated at \$52,900. It would give Bill the ability control wet/dry spots where they affect play.
4. Add a second sprinkler to greens to separate irrigation of greens from the surrounds. This would allow the greens to be watered separately from the surrounds which would eliminate watering bunkers. Estimated at \$17,500.
5. Replace the isolation valves and main saddles: 100 valves at a cost of \$70,000.
6. Install a complete new system: Estimate @ \$570,000. His opinion is that by doing #1, (already done & #3), we would cut normal water use by 18-22%. We plan on assessing the course after the golf season and devise a plan to individually wire sprinklers as necessary. We plan on adding sprinklers at the greens on a schedule.

We will replace valves and saddles when needed. We will continue to purchase sprinklers for replacement and to keep in stock.

Equipment: Huge expenses for us. Presently we are paying 4 leases that run us \$2,650 per month and \$32,000 per year. This doesn't include the \$670 per mo. & \$8,000 per year that House & Grounds pays on our behalf for equipment we purchased in 2013. So we are paying \$40,000 per year on equip. leases that comes out of CIDM.

Miscellaneous: This is a catch all category.

Rollover: This category is for unspent money that can be rolled over from one year to the next to fund large expenditure projects.

Capital Improvement Deferred Maintenance or better known as CIDM:

Per our By-laws, the board has the digression to use 15-20% of each member's monthly dues towards CIDM. Also per our By-laws, we can use CIDM money for equipment leases, which we do, instead of paying them out of Operating Funds which would obviously increase member's dues. Presently and for as long as I can remember, we use 15% for CIDM. This fund is used to maintain and improve the clubhouse/surrounding grounds, swimming area & pool on projects planned by the House & Grounds Committee and approved by the board of directors.

I've described above what the Greens Committee uses our share of the money for and there is also a 'Reserve Fund' that is funded through CIDM. An example of how it works. Say we have 260 members that are paying dues at \$275 per month. At 15%, each member's dues contribute \$41.25 per month into CIDM for a monthly total of \$10,725. The 'Reserve Fund' takes 10% off the top or \$1,072.50. In theory, House and Grounds and Greens committees each get 50% of the remainder or \$4,826.25 each. Multiply all numbers by 12 for each month and the totals for a year are: CIDM collected = \$128,700; 'Reserve Fund' = \$12,870 and Greens & H&G = \$57,915 each for their projects. When you subtract the \$32,000 for equip. leases that Greens pays we are left with \$25,915 for projects. H&G after paying \$8,000 for their share of equip. leases is left with \$50,000 for projects. This is just a quick over view of the process and I hope it gives not only the new members but all members a basic understanding of what CIDM is and how it works.

JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM

By Christopher Gay

We are introducing new Junior Play Times: ***Every Saturday at 3:00pm.*** Juniors must be able to play golf as this is not a beginner program. Sign-ups are required and are located at the bar. Juniors will play in different formats each week. This is perfect for younger kids who are either entering our PGA Junior League or who are already in the PGA Junior League. Additionally for 2017 we will have a PGA Junior League for kids 14-16 called 16u. We invite all juniors ages 9 to 16 to play each Saturday starting September 17th (No game on 10/1).

Last Junior Clinic of the Year is by far the smallest – ages 3-6. This Saturday 9/10 and Sunday 9/11 from 1:00pm to 1:30pm. \$35.00 – parents must be present and accompany juniors. Please call me directly at 707.762.1057 to sign up.

Our Junior Development Program continues. We meet every Saturday at 2:00pm for 60 minutes - Includes entry into USKIDS Learning Program and Level 1 materials. We learn skills, play games and provide assessment to earn USKIDS Learning Pins. There is no cost for members and \$45 per month for non-members.

ETIQUETTE

By Christopher Gay

Dress Code: as a reminder to all members – the dress code for the golf course is a collared shirt and is required for men. Please inform your guests about this policy as T-Shirts will not be permitted on the golf course.

Our official dress code is as follows:

DRESS CODE: All members, their families, and their guests shall at all times dress in accordance with good taste and judgment. Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times outside the pool area.

- Men must wear collared shirts, or designer golf wear when playing golf.
- Shorts, dresses and skirts must have an out seam measurement of at least 15 inches.

Clothing that is specifically prohibited on the course or in the clubhouse:

- Jeans which are soiled or torn
- Tee Shirts with lettering in poor taste.
- Bathing suits and tank tops are prohibited on the course and in the clubhouse unless you are using the pool area and coming to the clubhouse for food or drinks, etc.
- Cutoffs.

MEN'S TOURNAMENT RESULT (AUGUST)

By Christopher Gay

Congratulations to Greg Plattner who wins the Men's Medal with a net 64!

Congratulations to Jon Banister and Porter Slate who won the Parent Child Championship (Gross)

Congratulations to Eric and Harry Vander Meer who won the Parent Child Championship (Net)

Congratulations to Brad Dillon who wins the 3 Club and 1 Putter Tournament with a net 61!!

Next Men's Tournaments September 24 – Men's Medal. The Goat Hill Invitational (Member Guest Tournament) September 29 – October 1st!

AWAY GAMES

By Christopher Gay



Are you looking to play somewhere new? I have set up 2 away games in the near future:

October 20 @ Hiddenbrook Golf Club 10:30am \$45 Per Person.

November 10th @ Silverado North 10:30am \$89 Per Person includes lunch

Please call me directly at 707.762.1057 if you are interested in playing at one of these courses.



**** NOTE ** *Our mixer is 1 week earlier -***
SEPTEMBER FRIDAY NIGHT MIXER – Oktoberfest!
September 23 5:30pm – 7:30pm!

By Christopher Gay



In München steht ein Hofbräuhaus: Eins, zwei, g'suffa!

Get ready for PG&CC Oktoberfest! We will have live Oktoberfest music – theme food and BEER SAMPLES! Who knows we might get crazy and start singing traditional Oktoberfest songs while drinking from Das Boot! Of course, we will have our infamous \$500 drawing.

*The German words above say: “In Munich there is a brewhouse: 1, 2, bottoms up!



SEPTEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Men's Club Championship Begins (Pick your own date for matches)	2 Sunset Bar & Junior Lessons 5:30-7:00	3
4	5	6 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	7 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	8	9 Sunset Bar & Junior Lessons 5:30-7:00	10 Pool Party 3:00pm- 6:00pm
11 1 st Round of Club Championship must be completed	12 Rotary Golf Tournament 12:00pm to 5:00pm	13 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	14 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	15	16 Sunset Bar & Junior Lessons 5:30-7:00 Pool Party 5pm – 8pm	17 Party in Hall 4pm – 10pm
18 2 nd Round of Club Championship must be completed	19 St. John's Golf Tournament 12:00pm to 5:00pm	20 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	21 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am <i>Board Meeting 6pm</i>	22	23 Friday Night Mixer – Oktoberfest Live Music 5:30pm – 7:30pm Last Day for Sunset Junior Lessons 5:30- 7:00	24 3 rd Round of Club Championship must be completed Men's Club Medal Play 8:30am Wedding in Hall 4pm – 10pm
25 Final Round of Club Championship Junior Club Championship	26 SIRS 7:00am-1:30pm	27 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner – Famous Nizibian Family Fish Fry</i>	28 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	29 Goat Hill Practice Round and Pre- Tournament Party	30 Goat Hill Tournament Begins Round 1 of 2 No Sunset Bar	

OCTOBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Sunset Bar 5:30-7:30	1 Goat Hill Round 2
2	3 Willow Brook Golf Tournament 12:00-5:00pm	4 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	5 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	6 Home and Home @ Bodega	7 Sunset Bar 5:30-7:30	8 Party in Hall 5pm – 11pm
9 Party in Hall 11-2	10	11 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	12 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	13 Home & Home @ Home VS Bodega	14 Sunset Bar 5:30-7:30	15 Party in Hall 5pm – 11pm Ryder Cup Tournament
16	17 Aeration	18 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am <i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>	19 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am <i>Board Meeting 6pm</i>	20 Away Game to Hidden Brook 10:30am	21 Sunset Bar 5:30-7:30	22 Party in Hall 5pm – 11pm
23	24 Exchange Bank 12:00pm – 5:00pm	25 9-Hole Ladies 9:00am AT Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club	26 18-Hole Ladies 8:15am	27	28 Friday Night Mixer 5:30pm – 7:30pm	29 Halloween Couples Tournament
30	31	<i>Men's Twilight Dinner</i>				