

# Oswego Country Club News

*February 2012*

## **President's Message ...**

*by Jack Conners*

Greetings. I would assume that most of you would agree with me that this has been an extraordinarily mild winter. However, I have not heard too many people complain about it. Hopefully, the weather will continue thru March so that we can enjoy St. Patrick's Day on the golf course.

The Board and Committees have been working diligently to make preparations for the upcoming season. The Committee Chairs are listed in the newsletter. I would ask anyone who has an interest in serving on a Committee or has some comments or insight they might like to share with a Committee, to contact the respective Chair. The more input we receive from the members, the easier it is for us to do our job.

This year we hope to begin sending newsletters electronically. If various members do not have email, then we can still send them a paper copy of the newsletter, but ideally, we would like to eliminate that at some point in the future. In order to accomplish this goal, it will require everyone to visit the website and register. Maybe we will raffle off a cart card or two in May. In order to be eligible for the raffle, you will need to be registered on the web site.

After several months of consideration and discussion, the Board has decided to sell advertising which will be tastefully done on each hole sign located on the tees, as well as the spaces currently on the scoreboard and events calendar. It has been approximately twelve years since the initial advertising was sold in these last two areas, and it is time to upgrade. If we are able to sell all the advertising space available, then it will allow us to purchase new tee signs and an awning for the scoreboard without the club incurring any cost. More significantly, it could generate annual revenue, which the club is in great need of.

Tom Van Schaack is working closely with Shane Stepien on this project. I am sure that they will be reaching out to many of you and your businesses. If you would like more information, feel free to contact Tom or Shane directly. If all goes well, this initiative will provide a great benefit to the club, not only this year but in future years.

That's all I have for now so let's keep our fingers crossed and hope that the mild winter weather continues and that we have an early spring.

Regards,

*Jack Conners*

## **Oswego Country Club**

610 West First Street, Oswego, NY 13126

**Business Office - Phone: 315-343-4664 / Fax: 315-343-6539**

**Office E-mail: [OswegoCCoffice@centralny.twcbc.com](mailto:OswegoCCoffice@centralny.twcbc.com)**

**Newsletter E-mail: [OswegoCCnews@twcny.rr.com](mailto:OswegoCCnews@twcny.rr.com)**

**Pro Shop Phone: 315-343-1941 (golf season only)**

## **Green Committee Update...**

*by Todd Donahue*

Hello from the Green Committee.

As February rapidly approaches, it is difficult to believe that most of the fairways and greens have little or no snow cover. As we continue to enjoy occasional temperatures in the 40's, I can't help but reflect back to February of 2007, when Oswego made national headlines in the New York Times, USA Today, and other mainstream media outlets due to the massive amounts of snowfall we received. I am optimistic, or perhaps just wishfully thinking, that we may escape this season with very little ado from Old Man Winter. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

In the meantime, the Green Committee continues to meet during the winter months to outline our plan ahead for the next year. As mentioned last month, one of our major focus areas is improving course drainage, with an emphasis on holes 11, 12, 13, 14, and 16. I encourage you to share any ideas or suggestions that you may have, related to those things green at the Oswego Country Club, whether it be a suggested aesthetic improvement or a suggestion related to the overall playability and/or condition of the golf course.

Note: Volunteer Clean-up Day is tentatively scheduled for March 31st, 2012 at 8:00 AM; and I look forward to seeing all of you in the near future.

## **Excerpts from the USGA Greens Section:**

Increased winter play can weaken the turf for next year, especially Poa Annua greens (our frontside greens). The turf has stopped growing, thus recovery will not occur until next spring. Winter play never benefits putting green conditions. The lack of snow, combined with fluctuations of temps, leaves turf vulnerable to cold temp injury, especially our Poa Annua greens. Going from 20 one day to 45 the next reduces cold temp hardiness leaving plants more susceptible to injury from the cold as well as crown hydration injury. Snow insulates the turf like a blanket." These are some of the considerations we take into account when deciding whether to open or not.

Scott Peters  
GC Supt.

## **Handicap News ...**

*by Larry Heintz*

It is now the quiet time of the handicap season. The club computer has been put to sleep and is only awoken twice a month to update scores submitted by our snowbirds and to recalculate their handicaps. This process should take place on the 1st and 15th of each month, but sometimes it may be done a day or so early or late, depending on my schedule.

If you are in the south or west and playing in the sun, please keep submitting your scores and keep your USGA handicap current. Just go to the Members Only section of the web site and click on handicaps, or go directly to:

[www.gshandicap.com/HSWClient/login.aspx](http://www.gshandicap.com/HSWClient/login.aspx)

Enter your gsid which is 01942-(your handicap number); Enter your password, which is your last name Click on post scores and view info.

You will now be on a screen where you can either post scores or check your handicap info.

Bookmark the above web address, and you can go directly to it each time you need to.

## **Secretary's Report...**

*by Larry Heintz*

The new Oswego Country Club web site has now been up and running for almost a year. There is and will be much information pertaining to the membership to be found in the Members Only section of the web site. To view this area and use it's functions, such as reading the newsletters on line, going directly to the handicap system, and looking at breaking news and schedules, you must register.

Accessing this Members Only section necessitates an initial sign-in procedure which will require members to list a valid e-mail address. Just go to OswegoCountryClub.com and follow the directions for registering on the Members Only section. Your e-mail address will also be added to our web site, so current information can be sent to you. You can be assured that these addresses will ONLY be used for Club business and will not be sold or released to any other entity. With that said, once we develop a sufficient database of e-mail addresses, we would like to discontinue, or at least substantially reduce the number of newsletter mailings. This could be a significant savings to the Club in printing and postage costs.

## Golf Committee Report...

by Nick Della Penna

The 2012 Golf Committee has been formed and already has begun to meet. Our committee consists of Jon Fowler, Steve Howard, Dan Jordan, Mike Lane, Dave Lloyd, Don Molinari, Tom Park, Jim Patka, John Stevens, Tom Van Schaack, and Nick Della Penna (chair).

For those of you who are not familiar with the work of this committee, our responsibilities include: establishing the golf calendar, distributing and processing event applications, coordinating league play and club events, updating and maintaining event plaques, establishing and monitoring "Local Rules", monitoring practice range usage, recommending fees for events, guests and carts, monitoring reciprocal relationships and usage, coordinating the Oswego State and Oswego High School golf teams' course usage, monitoring the PGA Professional (and his staff), and overseeing the Junior Golf Program.

As you can see, the Committee's responsibilities cover a wide range of Club activities. Our work thus far this winter has focused on finalizing the Golf Calendar, reviewing our fee structure, and confirming our Reciprocal agreements. We have also begun discussions on simplifying and clarifying our expectations of the Pro Shop.

As always, we seek your input. If there are any items that you would like for the Committee to consider, please feel free to contact me, or join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, February 14th @ 6:00 PM.

## From the Business Office...

**Late Payment Penalties:** For members utilizing the "Payment in Full" or "Split Payment" options, the following late payment penalty shall be imposed if the applicable amount is not received by February 1: one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) for golfing members; fifty-dollars (\$50.00) for non-golfing members.

If the applicable payment is not received by March 1, an additional penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for golfing members and twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for non-golfing members will be imposed.

Should payment in full not be received by April 1, another penalty of one-hundred dollar (\$100.00) for golfing members and twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for non-golfing members shall be assessed.

For non-golfing members utilizing the "Payment in Full" or "Split Payment" options, there will be a late payment penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) imposed if payment of the applicable amount is not received by February 1. If the appropriate payment is not received by March 1, an additional penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) will be imposed. Should payment in full not be received by April 1, another twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) penalty shall be assessed.

Remember, non-payment and/or late payments can result in suspension of privileges and/or revocation of membership status. See By-Laws Section 2.03 in your Member Handbook for details.

## Social Committee News...

by Gail Greenwood

The New Years Bash was a great success this year. After a slow start, the tables really filled up. The food, the music, and the company were all great.

Bunco is continuing at OCC on the 1st Thursday of the month through April. Cocktails are at 6:00 with Bunco beginning at 6:30. \$15.00 per person covers Bunco and a light dinner. Interested? Contact Phyllis Price at 342-2035 or wprice2@twcny2.rr.com. For the month of February, the cost will be \$5 for the Bunco game and players are requested to bring a dish to pass.

Gail Greenwood and Deana Masuicca are chairing the committee this year and are looking for input and assistance from the membership on events. Please give them a call.



# BUNCO



*"Let the good times ROLL!"*

**Thursday February 2, 2012**

\$5 includes Bunco and bring a dish to pass  
Cocktails at 6:00 / Bunco begins at 6:30

Contact Phyllis Price at 343-2035 or  
wprice2@twcny.rr.com

*Continuing 1st Thursday of the month thru April.*

## 2012 Committee Chairs

Bylaws - Dennis McDermott  
Facilities - Jim Patka and Tom Park  
Golf - Nick Della Penna  
Greens - Todd Donahue  
Handicap - Larry Heintz  
House and Insurance - Jack Connors  
Junior Golf - John Stevens  
Marketing - Tom Van Schaack  
Membership - Craig Bundy  
Social - Gail Greenwood

## Century Tavern Winter Hours

- Closed - Monday
- Tuesday thru Friday 3:00 'til 6:00 (Min.)
- Sat. & Sun. noon 'til 6:00 (Min.)

Party Bookings and Information:  
315-343-7457

## Membership News...

**A warm welcome to John and Carmella Smith and family, who applied and were accepted as full family members to the Club for the 2011-2012 Golf Season.**

## Website News...

by Tom Van Schaack

How to register on "Members Only" section:

1. Click on "Members Only" golf ball.
2. Click on the register link.
3. Complete the member registration form and click register.
4. Your registration request will be sent to the web site who must confirm you are a member of OCC in good standing.
5. Once you are confirmed, you must verify your user name and password in order to have access to the "Members Only" section of the web site.

The web site is best viewed in the latest internet browser. Make sure your monitor is set at a screen width of 1024 for best results.

## Oswego Country Club

610 West First Street  
Oswego, NY 13126

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