



## **STOUGHTON COUNTRY CLUB NEWS**

**February 2015**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By: Suzette Mullooly*

As we approach the half way point of winter, come to the Club and brush off the winter doldrums. There are many events planned this month so come and join the fun. Member Appreciation night is Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm to 8:00pm. Come and enjoy a night out with your fellow Club members. There is a wonderful menu being offered for Valentine's Day dinner and it is easy to get a reservation! The ladies will be playing bridge on Wednesday February 4 and 18 preceded by lunch at noon. All ladies are welcome. New Member Promotion night is scheduled for Tuesday February 24 starting at 6:00pm. This is a great night to introduce friends to the Club. And of course, Friday night member dining continues to offer tasty specials. And don't forget those winter birthday dinners.

The office is working on this year's membership book which should be available in May. Please review your information and let Tami know of changes in phone numbers and email addresses.

### **GOLF SHOP MESSAGE**

*By: Steve Hlavacek*

Seems like a long time since we were all playing golf. I have talked with some members who have been to Vitense Golf Range recently and they gave it rave reviews. Newly heated stalls make it very comfortable for practicing your game. Apparently, it is very busy on weekends but you can get a little work in on your game. If you are interested, I would be glad to give you a lesson, at no charge, on Saturday afternoons during February. Call me at 444-5454 to set up an appointment.

I have just returned from the National PGA Show in Orlando. I had the opportunity to view all the new equipment that will be coming down the pipeline this spring. If you have questions about any of the new clubs, give me a call and I would be happy to help you in any way.

## **MANAGER'S MEMO**

*By: Steve Hlavacek*

The PGA Show in Orlando was all about electronic devices, GPS, wrist swing analysis and every kind of new technology. We want to update some of our electronic technology here at the club. We are asking our members to sign up for email and we are randomly selecting someone to win two free dinners at the club for signing up. We are also asking our members to send us pictures of themselves that we can use with our charge system to help eliminate errors. If you don't have a picture, we will be asking you for a moment when you are at the club to snap a quick one for our records. You can use the photos to help you recognize members, and we will be using them for acknowledging golfing accomplishments throughout the season.

Membership Book: Several years ago we decided that the membership book, the hard copy, was no longer necessary. Well, we were wrong and we are bringing it back this year. We hope the book will provide you with all the information about the club. If you have any questions about the club or club activities please call us at 873-7861 and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Membership Appreciation Night is February 7th. Sign up for Door Prizes and enjoy complimentary cocktails, and hors d'oeuvres from 6:30 to 8:00. Bruce Johnson will provide music from 6:30 to 7:30. There will be short a program highlighting some of our members at 7:30 by Masters of Ceremonies, Gary Polipnick and Bert Mullooly. Please come and enjoy an evening here at the club.

Wine 101 - You are cordially invited to a complimentary Wine Seminar on Tuesday, February 17th at 5:30. Paul Anthony will conduct a two hour introduction to wine. Paul is the General Manager at Bishops Bay Country Club and the husband of Diane Anthony, our Events Director here at the club. Paul is currently studying to become a "Master of Wine". Come to the class and stay for dinner. Please RSVP to 873-7861.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

*By: Steve Swanson*

A recent article by Forbes Magazine covered the difficulties in the private golf club industry. Negative profit margins for many clubs and challenges with decreasing membership lead the list. Another report by the accounting firm McGladrey LLP reminds all of us that "things are not what they used to be". We are pleased to report that Stoughton Country Club continues to hold steady during this period of continued stress in the industry. This does not mean we can just continue as we always have. Your Board is addressing this by reviewing our governance policies and procedures as well as looking for ways to increase revenue and stay efficient.

So how did 2014 turn out? As mentioned above, we held our own, and in some areas we see continued improvement. Overall revenues are down compared to 2013, but if we take out one-time events such as our insurance settlement in 2013 and a donation in 2014, our core revenue is actually up \$20,000. Expenses were up by \$23,000 so our net core earnings were essentially flat for the year. Actual net revenue for the year was \$58, 278 as compared to our budget

of \$17,000, so we had a better than anticipated year.

Just a few other highlights to mention:

We finished the year with membership at 231 as compared to 224 in 2013.

We received a donation for the back-nine restroom

At the end of the year we received a donation of appreciated stock valued at \$20,000

### **FROM THE KITCHEN**

*By: Daniel Minnema*

Yet another month has passed us by. We have been finishing up with quite a few Christmas parties, surprise birthday parties, and yes, even a wedding party. All of the functions have been handled without a hitch. I have personally heard some wonderful comments, which is what my staff and I strive for.

Friday night dining has been awesome!! Even with the winter weather, numbers have been strong. Specials have been a big hit with many positive responses. Please remember that if there is something you wish us to create, or make differently, just ask your server and I am sure that we can accommodate your request.

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. I have created some tantalizing menu creations for dining this special day. Take time to make a reservation and let us do all the work for you and your loved one, or significant other. Signup sheet is at the bar.

Jacob and I will be finishing up the new club house menu and Friday night menus next month. I will begin the new menus when the golf course opens up.

Don't worry, I am not changing the fish!!! I feel an upgrade for the club house menu is in order. A fine selection of sandwiches, salads, and even elegant entrees.

It has been my pleasure creating menu ideas for ladies auxiliary. Positive feedback and wonderful words of wisdom from all. It won't be long and you will all be coming of the ninth green for a hearty bowl of homemade soup or a handmade sandwich.

Again, I wish to thank Steve and the board for such a wonderful opportunity here at the club. It is not only my pleasure to be your chef, but also to make great friendships along the way. Happy eating!!!! Chef Dutch

### **LADIES AUXILIARY**

*By: Marge Gerber*

There was only one auxiliary meeting this month. Mother Nature would not let us gather together on January 7th.

Marita Hettinger furnished lovely table decorations. Once again, we had a delicious lunch provided by Dutch.

High scorers in bridge were Inez Toepfer and Suzette Mullooly. Congrats to these players!

There will be two meetings during the month of February; one on the 4th and the second on the 18th. We hope to see you there!

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*By: Mark Livingston*

January has come and gone so far it has been normal winter. We may be a little behind on snow for the season but only the snowmobilers are complaining about that. The lack of snow allowed us to do some tree work in late December which is usually very difficult. So far we have dodged any rain/ice storms that have the potential to cause the most damage to the course. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we don't experience any over the next coupled months.

Adam and I are staying busy in the shop. The winter months allow us the time to go over each machine and get them ready for the upcoming season. We replace bearings, change out the fluids, and have the reels ground. This takes up most of time, the rest being spent on planning for the upcoming season.

This year my national superintendent convention is in San Antonio. I have not been able to attend the conference the

past couple of years and have never been to San Antonio so I am looking forward to this year's show. It is always interesting to see all the new gadgets and equipment that are coming out in one place. The trade show coupled with the educational opportunities make for a busy week but one I am excited about.

I hope everyone is having a great "off season" and possibly traveling and playing golf somewhere warm. I am hopeful that next month I can talk a little about when the course will be opening.

**February 2014**

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
<b>Club House</b> <b>(608)873-7861</b>  <b>Golf Shop</b> <b>(608)873-8464</b>						
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  <b>Annual Meeting 6:00</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  <b>Ladies Auxiliary</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>  <b>Member Dining</b>	<b>7</b>  <b>Member Appreciation Night 6:30</b>
<b>8</b>  <b>Norse Afternoon of Fun Dinner</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  <b>Oregon Town &amp; Country</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  <b>Member Dining</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>Valentine's Day Dinner</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>Ladies Auxiliary</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  <b>Member Dining</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>New Member Promotion Night 6:00</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  <b>Member Dining</b>	<b>28</b>



Stoughton Country Club  
3165 Shadyside Drive  
P.O. Box 206  
Stoughton, WI 53589  
[www.stoughtoncountryclub.com](http://www.stoughtoncountryclub.com)