



Indian River Golf Club Newsletter

September/October 2011

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From The President, Bob Foster

It is hard to believe that this is the last newsletter of the year. Where has our summer gone? The last few weeks have been event-filled to say the least.

We had an over-flow annual meeting where the membership elected Craig Druskins to the board and re-elected Sukie Stump and Bill Bray to the board. At the board meeting subsequent to the annual meeting, the board re-elected me President, John Gibson Vice President, and Sukie Stump Treasurer. Gary Freismuth was elected Secretary.

Committee chairs for 2012 will be: Sukie Stump, Finance and Budget; Hap Herpel, Social; Bill Bray, House; John Gibson, Greens and Grounds; Bruce Hunting, Bylaws; Jim Beebe, Membership and Marketing; Gary Freismuth, Tournament and Golf; Dan Brown, Nominating.

Special thanks goes out to Karen Hill for her three years of service on the board with the last two as secretary. Karen has chaired both the Tournament and Golf Committee and the Social Committee and has served on the Executive Committee the last two years. We will miss her many contributions. Please thank her for her service when you see her.

As you know, work will begin on holes 4 and 17 on Monday Sept. 12. We are very excited about this new project and need to especially thank John Gibson, George Miller, John Demond and Cliff Stanton for making it all possible. The contractor hopes to finish his portion of the work by the second week in October.

Craig Druskins is chairing the search committee for a new General Manager. Members of his committee are Carol

Freismuth, Steve Cheli, Dennis Burwell and I. We are working with the PGA of Mich. and expect to have the resumes of all applicants in our possession by Sept. 26. We hope to have the new person named by the board in the month of October.

In closing, if you get the chance, please thank Dave and Sheryl for all they have done for the club during the last ten years. It would be difficult to attempt to list the improvements made at our club under Dave's leadership. We wish them the best going forward.

Finally, I want to thank not only all the boards and committees, but all of the membership for what you do for the club. The number of you who are generous with your time and resources in order to make the club a better place is truly extraordinary. Thank you very much.



From Our Manager, Dave Marsh

When I was young boy, my parents would take me to the golf club up to five days a week. Rhinelander Country Club in northern Wisconsin was a happening nine hole course with a supper club attached. I loved that place as a child. I'd spend countless hours putting in the dark while my mother and father sipped manhattans after the all-you-can eat perch buffet. At 5 years old I could play nine holes pretty proficiently. At 10 years old I could shoot in the low 40's from the white tees. Golf was my game. I collected as many golf balls as I could find. I would strip the covers and unwind the rubber band centers of the Titleist balls when I had nothing else to do. Countless hours were spent in my side yard chipping into the family Weber grill. My dad never yelled at me, but I'm certain he knew how all those dents got in it. I was also an excellent cribbage player for my age. My much older brothers would beat me up when I'd win at cards. I loved making them upset, even though I knew the beating was only moments away. I had mom to protect me and she did almost every time using rolling pins across my oldest brother Charlie's knees, and Hot Wheels tracks to whip my twin brothers Jim and John. I loved watching them get their just desserts for all those beat downs I took when my protector wasn't around.

By the age of 10, it was just my mother and I left to play cards. All my siblings were at least 10 years older than me, and they were attending college or had their own families to worry about. It was only mom to play against and in my mind "she wasn't any good"...or was she losing just to make me happy? In any event, the beatings had stopped when I won, so I was content, until one day. It was a week night and my father was working late again and I begged my mother to play a game of cribbage. She obliged as she always did, even though she was making dinner. This night was different. Mom was getting great hands 24's & 16's and I was getting 2's and 4's. As we finished the game, it was only then that I noticed she had DOUBLE SKUNKED me. Now, I've played cribbage for 40 years and I've yet to see, let alone, be double skunked again. I was so upset I bawled my eyes out and went upstairs to cry it out in my bed. I refused dinner and only at 8pm did I stir when my mother came into my dark room to tell me something. She wanted to apologize for beating me so thoroughly. She didn't even talk of the cribbage game. Instead she had a gift for me. She told me that she was giving me her golf clubs. Her brand new Wilson Carol Mann woods & irons. The pull cart with the fold down seat and the green woods weren't very many, but they were new and they were mine. I fell asleep happy that night. When I awoke for school the next morning there was the familiar smell of coffee mixed with stale cigarettes, and there were my new clubs in my room. I went downstairs for breakfast and mom was on the couch stretched out. I noticed she was breathing hard and gasping so I went to help. It was too late. She passed away in front of me at the age of 49. I had gotten those clubs for a reason, and I played those darn things until I was a senior in high school. I took a lot of ribbing for those green women's clubs I played, but they were my mothers, and I wasn't going to let anyone bother me. I shot 29 at Evergreen Hills in Southfield during a high school match, with a double eagle on the card with those clubs. That elicited the same reaction from players and coaches my brothers used to give me when I would beat them in cribbage. I loved that feeling...I thought those clubs had magic in them. I knew golf would be my career long before I knew what a career was. I think my mother would be proud of what I've accomplished in the golf industry...and that's all the peace of mind I need.

David

Upcoming Events

- **September 10th Melvindale Group Limited Tee Times**
- **September 11th IRGC Shootout 3 PM**
- **September 14th Last day of Men's 18 Hole Format**
- **September 14th Men's Day League Scramble and Banquet 3 PM**
- **September 15th Last day of Men's 9 Hole Scramble**
- **September 15th Adult Drop In Clinic 6 to 7:30 PM**
- **September 17th VFW Outing 11 AM Shotgun**
- **September 19th Boyne Couples 1 PM Shotgun at Boyne**
- **September 21st Member's Night 3:30 PM Shotgun**
- **September 22nd Adult Drop In Clinic 6 to 7:30 PM**
- **September 23rd Pairs and Spares 4:30 PM**
- **September 24th Northern Michigan Senior Open 3 Person Scramble**
- **September 25th Northern Michigan Senior Open 3 Person Scramble**
- **September 29th Short Game Clinic 4 to 5 PM**
- **October 1st Last Hurrah Party 5 to 7 PM**
- **October 11th Last night for evening bridge and dinner**
- **October 14th Board Meeting 8 AM**
- **November 26th "Breakfast With Santa" 9 to 11 AM**
- **December 4th IRGC Christmas Party 6 PM Potluck Event**

House Committee

The following report was delivered at the IRGC Annual Meeting August 21, 2011.

I want to thank the members of the 2011 House Committee:

Steve Bataran, Carol Beebe (currently inactive), George Benhase, Dick Binder, Ray Eaton, Joanne Hawthorn, Bob McFadden, Carol Miller, Linda Roberts, Kim Wilkins, and Dave Marsh

Thanks also go to the many members who have volunteered hundreds of hours to House Committee projects. These include, in addition to committee members, Dan Brown, Gary and Carol Freismuth, Jeff Hamal, George Miller, Cliff Stanton, and Janel Anderson. In addition to time, our volunteers have paid for gasoline, supplies, and equipment that have combined to save the club thousands of dollars, helping to keep our dues low. Special thanks go to Ralph and Linda Lindgren for their donations to the refurbishing of the on-course restrooms.

Since the last yearly report of the IRGC House Committee in August, 2010 much has transpired.

- Replaced rotted wood and installed new steel roof for on-course restroom
- Established electronic member directory, with pictures, on IRGC website
- Repainted both on-course restrooms, including decorations
- Re-staining the worn portions of the deck.
- Arranging for the paintings that grace the dining room walls.
- Planning 2011 IRGC Garage Sale for 9/3/11.

The IRGC House Committee continues to review and plan for the following improvements:

- Storage area for dining room equipment
- Wind-break for front door
- Patio furniture for front porch
- Sun shading for the north patio
- Second toilet room in locker room

As well as longer term needs:

- New roof on cart barn or new cart barn and related improvements
- New roof on clubhouse

Since the above report, the board has accepted the donation of the very attractive furniture that now graces the front porch. The donations to purchase the furniture came from some of the ladies of the club. Thanks to all who contributed.

Special thanks, also, to all of those (too numerous to mention individually) who contributed time and merchandise to the IRGC Garage Sale. The tally of earnings is not complete, but while a substantial amount was raised, it may have to be "banked" for a future project.



Bill Bray

Dear Members,

Dave Marsh and the IRGC Board have reached an agreement whereby Dave's current contract which runs through year-end, will now end Sept. 10, 2011. Under a new agreement with the club, Dave will be consulting with the club until year-end. It should be emphasized that Dave was not fired and was offered by a unanimous board the opportunity to renew his contract for next year. The offer included deferment of a portion of his compensation until the end of next year. The deferment would have been paid in full upon satisfactory completion of certain long standing goals. Rather than accept this agreement, Dave proposed a consulting agreement which would include payment of his full salary and benefits through the end of this year. After some negotiation, Dave and a unanimous board reached agreement on such a contract.

Dave and Sheryl have done many wonderful things for our club for which they are owed a great debt of gratitude. The club is clearly a far better place because of their contributions, and we wish them nothing but the best going forward.

The board is now in the process of appointing a five person search committee for Dave's replacement. The committee will be chaired by Craig Druskins and will be working with the assistance of The PGA of Michigan and its career placement offices. The PGA estimates the normal time line for a replacement as 8 to 10 weeks. They have assured us that we can expect many fine applicants in our salary range. In the meantime, with Dave's continued assistance and the able leadership of Pat, Doug, Tina and Lillian (and the back-up of our CPA if necessary) we are confident the club will run smoothly until Dave's replacement is found. We sincerely appreciate your support during this transition period.

Your Board Of Directors

News From The Pro

Football games have started, the Tigers are in the pennant race and Indian River Golf Club's course is in the best shape of the season! Fall is my favorite time of the year because the colorful leaves, the smell of apple cider and the golf course which is in great shape and will stay that way to the end of the season because of limited play!

Bring in Your Guests and Save!

Now is the best time to bring your guests to Indian River Golf Club! Don't play behind slow groups; make a tee time today and you can pretty much play at your own pace. You'll be finished in time to watch your favorite college or pro football game and eat a bowl of famous IRGC Chili.

As an incentive to bring your guests out in September and October, the golf shop is offering a special discount. Normal Member Guest green and cart fees for the fall are \$39 before 3:00 pm and \$19 after 3:00 pm. We are selling a booklet of 4 Member Guest Rounds of 18 w/cart good any day and any time

with range balls for just \$25. The rounds will be good till the end of the 2011 season. We are limiting the number of these books available so CALL the golf shop today before they're gone!

Fall Events You Don't Want to Miss!

Tuesday September 13th

Member / Employee Best Ball Tournament

3:00 Shotgun – Sign up in locker room

Monday September 19th

Boyne Couples event @ Boyne

12:30 shotgun on the Heather Course – Sign up in locker room

Wednesday September 21st

Members Night – Class Reunion Theme

3:30 Shotgun – Sign up in locker room

Friday September 23rd

Pairs & Spares

4:30 pm Tee Times – Sign Up in locker room

Saturday & Sunday September 4th & 25th

Northern Michigan Senior Open – 3 Person Scramble

10:00 shotgun each day – RSVP Required Applications in Locker room

Progressive Sale – Time to use pro shop credits is NOW!

Some of you still have credit available on your pro shop account that will soon be expiring. Purchase during the Labor Day Progressive Sale (going on through Sept. 10th) and save 20% off one clothing item, 30% on two items and 40% on three or more items.



Doug

Search Committee Formed

The Indian River Golf Club Search Committee has been formed to follow a process, which will end in the hiring of a new general manager for the club. The members of the Search Committee are:

Dennis Burwell	Tournament & Golf Committee
Steve Cheli	By-Laws Committee
Craig Druskins	Chairman of Search Committee
Carol Freismuth	Membership/Marketing Committee
Bob Foster	President IRGC

The first meeting of the IRGC Search Committee was September 5, 2011. The goal is to complete the search process and make a recommendation to the club board by the end of October or earlier. The key is to identify an excellent replacement so the club can continue to successfully meet the needs of the IRGC membership.

The members of the IRGC Search Committee welcome your comments or suggestions.. Please call any of the Search Committee Member with your input. The committee is dedicated to find the best possible general manager for our golf club.

2011 President Cup Winners



Candy Tucker Gary Freismuth

Tournament and Golf

Legends Tournament a Huge Success

The redesigned and renamed club championship tournament was held this past weekend.

Blessed by beautiful weather, the large field of golfers competed for two days over a course that was in beautiful condition with pins cut into some of Pat and Dean's favorite locations. A premium was placed on good putting, with those who controlled their games usually ending up as winners in their flight.

Speaking of flights...there was a flight for nearly every level of golfer. The addition of Stableford scoring kept the field tightly bunched going into the final holes on Sunday. Several flights were decided by one point and the **OPEN** division actually resulted in a tie between Dave Laurie and Steve Reh. The two golfing greats had to head back to hole #1

for a sudden-death playoff. Followed by a large and enthusiastic gallery, **Dave Laurie** ended up as our **Men's Club Champion**. On the Ladies side, **Ginny Braidwood** will have possession of the **Women's Club Champion** title for the next year.

Thank you to everyone who participated! It was our number one goal to increase entries this year, and this tournament was up by 30%. Next year we hope to see even more of you out there competing with old friends **and** new friends on our beautiful course.

Presidents Cup

Since the last newsletter The Presidents Cup tournament came to its conclusion. This season-long match-play event started in June and all matches were completed by mid-August. Participation in this tournament was also up, especially on the ladies side of the brackets.

With several matches going to the final hole or overtime, it was fitting that both championship matches also went down to the 18th green. **Candee Tucker** defeated **Carol Freismuth** to win the Women's trophy and **Gary Freismuth** beat out defending champ **Steve Cheli** for the Men's title.

Thank You

A big thanks goes out to everyone who took part in one or more of our club tournaments this season. Participation was up and some folks surprised themselves with their own performance. We had many new winners this year and hope for even more next year. Thanks also go out to all T&G committee members and league officers. We had a great summer and plan for an even better tournament season next year.

Gary Freismuth

Greens and Grounds

I want to thank the members of both the 2011 Greens and Grounds committee - Operations and Strategic Planning for all their time and hard work.

Operations Committee: John Gibson, Chairman, John DeMond; Patti Brown; Steve Eibling; Mike Reardon, Cliff Stanton; David Marsh, Pat Whitman; and Doug Temple.

Strategic Planning: John Gibson, Chairman, John DeMond; Cliff Stanton; George Miller; David Marsh; Pat Whitman; and Doug Temple.

Patti Brown has published a list in a previous newsletter of the members who maintain our flower beds at their own cost and time. This list is just one example of the great support our membership extends to IRGC. Thank you all very much.

Strategic Planning Matters - Holes #4 and #17 Project

Thanks to the 115 golf and social members for their pledges totaling \$95,000. The \$95,000 was our goal and enables us to proceed with the project this September. The project will begin within a few days after the Labor Day holiday and is expected to be completed by the first or second week in October. Weather is a factor. For those of you paying your pledge in two installments, don't forget that your second and final installment is due by October 13, 2011. Sooner would be appreciated.

Operational Matters

Pat Whitman estimates that the current golf- course irrigation control system will need to be replaced in three to five years. The current system is 25 years old and certain important replacement parts are no longer being manufactured. Pat maintains the system by fixing existing control panels and by purchasing new and used parts. As time goes on, it will become more difficult to obtain certain parts. Our current plans call for Pat to stockpile hard to get parts to maximize the use of our current system.

Pat has received an estimate from Toro to replace our current system for \$86,000, which could be financed with Toro over five years. Going forward the committee will continue discussions with Toro as well as other manufacturers to determine which replacement equipment will best meet IRGC requirements and pricing.

We believe our grub problem is under control. Two chemical treatments are planned for next year. So far this year 12 animals have been relocated and affected areas are healing.

Pat Whitman reports that our green speeds are running between nine and ten consistently. Nine recent readings show six at 9.5, one at 9.25 and two at 9.75. The committee has reconfirmed that our greens be maintained at a consistent average speed of between nine and ten. The committee agrees this represents the best balance, after taking into consideration green stress, health color, playability and cost.

John Gibson

Social Committee

We certainly enjoyed a fun filled season thanks to the time and commitment of Karen Hamal, Jerry Lesperance, Jill Lutz, Sharon McIntosh, George Miller, Ann Parks, Sue Schultz and Nancy Van Antwerp.

The committee still has some events you will not want to miss. **The Boyne Couple's Scramble** is scheduled for Monday, September 19th at Boyne. Our last **Member's Night** is Wednesday, September 21st with a 3:30 shotgun start, and the theme is **Class Reunion**. Bring a high school picture for the bulletin board guessing challenge. The dance floor will be in place for you to show us your high school dance moves. If you have a favorite dance song from your high school years, bring the cd. Saturday, October 1st is the **Last Hurrah Party**. November 26th is our **Breakfast with Santa**.....there is still more. **IRGC's Christmas Party** is Sunday, December 4th, and the last event for 2011 is our **New Year's Eve Party**. You will receive informational e-mails on each of these events.

Karen Hill, Chairperson

"Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance."

Dave Barry



Member's Night: Golfing, Dancing, Ladder Ball, Ball Toss and the Best Pig Roast Ever!



Golf Champions

Lopez Flight: 1st Ginny Braidwood 2nd Arlene Loca



Palmer Flight: 1st Dave Laurie 2nd Steve Reh



Annika Flight: 1st Helen Zimmer 2nd Jill Lutz



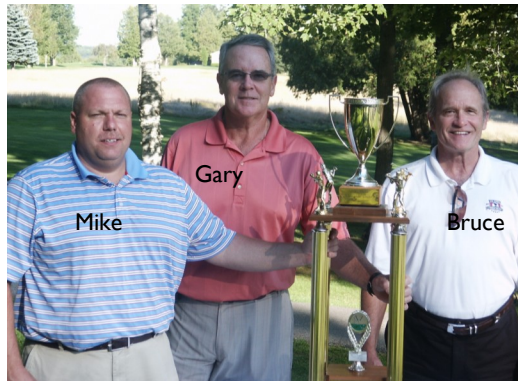
Nicklaus Flight: 1st Steve Cheli 2nd (Tie) Charlie Lange and John Kroeger



Zaharias Flight: 1st Mary Shaw 2nd Joanne Hawthorne



Hogan Flight: 1st Mike Connors 2nd (Tie) Gary Freismuth and Bruce Hunting



Snead Flight: 1st Larry Lutz 2nd Dan Brown



Hagen Flight: 1st Joe Balcerowiak 2nd Ray Tollefson



Mah Jongg News



The third annual Mah Jongg Tournament was held on Tuesday, August 9, 2011. Twenty women came to try their skills and luck in getting the most points for a Mah Jongg hands. Ruth Wolfe completed the most difficult hand on the Mah Jongg card, adding 150 points to her total score.. However, Pat Bray had the most winning hands on the card to become the 2011 Mah Jongg champion. Ruth Wolf is the second place winner and Carolyn Martin is the third place winner. They are holding a dragon which is a represented as a tile in the Mah Jongg set. The first, second and third place winners received cash prizes, and the beautiful centerpieces were awarded to Kathy Woodrow, 4th place winner, Mary Shaw, 5th place winner, and Pam Kroeger received a centerpiece for being the first player to complete a closed hand.



Kathy Piotraczk was the organizer of this fun and challenging event. She planned the food which was delicious and the decorations which were lovely. There was also an Asian tea service available. Karen Strasbough and Kathy Woodrow helped with the set-up for the tournament.

The tournament was the highlight of Mah Jongg play. If any IRGC members are interested in learning this fun, but challenging game, please come to Tuesday play which starts at 10 AM, stops for lunch and continues play until 4 PM. There are always players willing to teach the game, or just come to observe to see what it is all about.



Mah Jongg is an ancient Chinese game of skill, strategy, calculation, competition and chance. Best of all it's a game of camaraderie and fun while helping to keep the brain sharp. It's a social outing, mind stretcher, rummy-like game played with tiles rather than cards. Below is a picture from the Gatsby Era of ladies playing Mah Jongg.



Indian River Golf Club

P.O. Box 428

Indian River, MI 49749

231-238-7011

2011 Officers:

- **President: Bob Foster**
- **Vice-President: John Gibson**
- **Secretary: Karen Hill**
- **Treasurer: Suzanna Stump**

WE ARE ON THE WEB!

WWW.INDIANRIVERGOLFCLUB.COM

Tee Times 238-7011

Restaurant 238-8515

Mah Jongg play is Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 2:30+ PM. Beginners are welcome. To inquire about learning the game, contact Jessie McFadden at 238-7369. There is an on-going beginner table.

Duplicate Bridge (Sanctioned)
Tuesday night at 6:00 PM. Dinner is at 5:00PM. Friday at 10:00 starting June 18th.

Party bridge is Thursdays from 11:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Lunch is at 11:30 AM, and bridge starts at 12:30PM.

Friday Sanctioned Bridge starts July 8th at noon. Come early for lunch.

Pinochle play will move to Mondays starting June 6th. Lunch will be at noon and card play begins at 1 PM. New players are welcome and encouraged to attend!

