



Golf Course and Clubhouse Hours

Monday: 11 am - Sunset
Tuesday-Friday 8 am - Sunset
Saturday & Sunday: 7 am - Sunset

September 2010

Pardon the President

Our Pro, Brad Clark, always claims that fall golf is the best time of the year to play and I absolutely concur. Fall also means the Ryder Cup, which is one of the best team sports to be seen on television. Speaking of team sports, our own Special Event that took place August 21st sported a whopping thirty 4-person teams. From my perspective, as I listened to the many stories following the round, if we could add our own television coverage there would have been ample entertaining highlights. It's these stories that continue building the history of BHCC.

For those of you that had other commitments (i.e. golfing) that kept you from the annual membership meeting you can consult the minutes, although it will be hard for that document to capture the engaging 45th Anniversary stories told by some of our Charter members (note: the complete list of Charter members will be permanently hung upstairs). Marianne Nemmers told about how much more difficult #5 played back in 1965. Because of this, the membership fondly nicknamed it "Son of a Beaver". Sparked by such an idea, I could easily name the other seventeen. #1 would be "My First Double"; #13-"Good Bye Ball-Have A Nice Bath"; #14-"Train Wreck"; #15-"New Sleeve" and #18-"Consider Tennis".

History lessons are sadly shortened to paragraphs in our information heavy society. Many of our under fifty set belong and play Beaver without ever having a clue how it all came about. With the help of my pal Steve Pleis (who never helps me read a putt), we came upon some BHCC archives to share with all of you.

Here are a few of the compelling small stories from our first two decades...

- In 1962, members of the Washington Park Golf Club formed a group to evaluate the feasibility of building a new golf club. Although Washington Park was adequate early on, its shared use as a flood reservoir and given its flat-as-a-pancake topography left something to be desired. Only five holes were consistently open, and if the entire nine was open for the season, one could presume we were experiencing a drought.

- The land where BHCC sits was owned by a man named Leonard Miller. He sold it to our founding fathers of BHCC for \$200 per acre. How does that compare to the latest land transactions near the club? Here's a side story I liked. On the day the option was to be signed, Mr. Miller had been kicked by a cow. Upon arriving at Miller's house, the Beaver representatives found Miller lying on the floor. They proceeded to lay down beside him in an effort to peruse and sign the papers. So the initial deal was done via three men lying on the floor of a living room in the middle of the afternoon. And nobody had a camera?

- Gaining access to the land was another hurdle. The lower blacktop that heads west toward Peregrine and the club entrance was property divided between two relatives that must have gotten along like the Hatfields and McCoys. Our leadership worked a deal separately with each party and gained a 33 foot easement. I'm guessing the BHCC of the early 60's, like now, had some smooth legal counselors helping to navigate the way.



Pardon the President

- By mid-1963 the pressure was on. BHCC needed 150 members pledging \$300 each to get the project moving. An energetic young man, who happened to be a good golfer, had agreed to co-chair the project. His name...Wayne Snyder.

- One of the early fundraisers involved selling "I'm an Eager Beaver" lapel buttons for \$10. This program was undoubtedly successful and how couldn't it have been?

- The course architect was a gentleman out of the Chicago area named Edward Lawrence Packard (no mention if he drove the same). He had designed over 80 courses in the prior eight years and was considered one of the premier architects in the Midwest!

- The building of the clubhouse and course progressed through 1964 into 1965. The course contractor was Van Buskirk Construction out of Sioux City. The John Deere Research & Development Center in Waterloo donated all types of earth movers to test for the project, which saved the club thousands.

- The course opened in the summer of 1965. The first couple's tournament was played in pouring rain as the participants knocked it around the front nine twice.

- At the August '65 board meeting, a motion was made and carried to keep women off the course until after 12:30 PM on Saturdays. The boys on that board must have been or were about to become single.

- The budget in 1966 was \$54,000. For a bit of inflationary perspective, our budget for this year is over \$800,000.

- The July 1966 minutes included a report of cattle damage on the course. I'm guessing some ladies instigated the entire ordeal late some Friday night following the prior year's Saturday tee time policy.

- In 1972, the back nine opened for play. The Iowa Men's State Amateur was held at BHCC the following year as well as an unprecedented second straight year in 1974. The Women's State Amateur followed suit in 1977.

Our history is laden with one project after another. New signs, bridges, roofs as well as the dredging of ponds, straightening of creeks, planting of trees, installation of tile and sprinklers, the paving of the parking lot, building new tee boxes, new storage and maintenance buildings, pool sandblasting and then replacement and on and on commencing with our new clubhouse opening last month. 45 years and quite a run!

Fellow members, these 45 years of ongoing change and development did not happen by accident. The early years are full of surnames such as DeVoe, Mershon, Mathews, Hansen, Mark, Bonneson, Walmsley, Barron, Williams, Petersen, Nordly, Fiscus, Redfern, Twogood, Nemmers, Burket, Carlson, Lindgren, Appleby, Blanford, Keefe, the aforementioned Snyder and many more.

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But there is one name that appears much more than the rest. A name that Gaylon Halverson discussed passionately with me the night of our Special Event. That name...Bob Voorhees. Mr. Voorhees' support, guidance and gifts run the gamete. From the outset, he had the PGA connections to have the land properly surveyed. He secured the architect from Chicago. He served as a two-term President. He signed the first bonds. He chronicled and photographed the course's development. He donated many items courtesy Standard Golf (a company that is a tremendous steward to the club to this day) including ball washers, cups, flags, signs, benches and he even created the first waste baskets with a spike at the bottom and a smaller opening at the top so trash wouldn't blow out. I contend at some juncture that BHCC should creatively find an avenue to designate a Bob Voorhees Memorial marking his incredible generosity.

In the interim, if you should be talking with a member representing these and the many additional surnames that are part of our rich 45 year history, do me this favor, express some gratitude. Additionally, if you scan the original membership list in our new entryway and you know any of these individuals, consider doing what I did just last week. Invite them out for lunch. I had the opportunity to host 90 year-old Charter Member Joe McCullough and I can tell you this, it's well worth it to see the eyes light up and the history come to life. How else would I have known that Joe and his cronies boated across the flooded entry all in an effort to play the game they loved at the course they helped build?

Remember, fall golf means implementing the common sense leaf rule to speed up play.

Matt





September 2010

From The “New” Clubhouse

August was one of the busiest months at Beaver Hills CC that I can remember. The rain stopped, the building opened, and the temps rose. If you were lucky enough to join us on August 19th for the annual meeting and ribbon cutting ceremony – you were treated to some Beaver Hills CC history as well as a glimpse into the future. And the future looks bright – membership is growing, the social committee is planning some fun events, and the weather is perfect for golf and hanging out on the deck with friends and a cold beverage.

We have been tracking some membership patterns and have found that the members want to be upstairs. Our initial menu included steaks, burgers, shrimp cocktail, duck confit, walleye, cobb salad, and a country club sandwich. We will be keeping some of these better selling items, and adding some of your favorites from the 19th Hole. After the pool closes Sept. 7th – we will be reducing the 19th Hole menu to cold sandwiches and hot dogs, and breakfast sandwiches on the weekend mornings. The Beaver Grill (upstairs) will be open everyday @ 11am to handle your lunch and after golf dining needs. When we have golf outings or private parties, the 19th hole will have an expanded menu for the golfers. Hopefully, this will give the members the opportunity to enjoy our beautiful upstairs and reduced the members' costs.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, September 5: Family fun at the Beaver Pool starting at 3. We will be grilling burgers, brats, and hotdogs for the families from 5 to 6.

Monday, September 6: Couple's Golf Event – 9am SG. Breakfast Buffet starting at 8am, and Lunch upstairs to follow. Both for \$20 and part of the event.

Sunday, September 12: Brunch from 10:30 to 1. Call for reservations.

Sunday Brunch: We will be focusing on Breakfast items such as made-to-order Omelets, fresh Waffle Bar, made-to-order French Toast, bacon and sausage, seasonal fruit, and a Bloody Mary Bar! We will be taking your suggestions to make brunch enjoyable for everyone. Please call for reservations asap.

Saturday, September 18: Post UNI Game Party, and Pre-Game for Iowa @ Arizona. Festivities will start around 7pm with Dinner or hor-de-vores. Iowa game starts at 9:30pm

Halloween is just around the corner and we will be having a kid's party on Sunday, October 24th from 6-8pm. Also, Saturday, October 30th will be reserved for an adult costume party starting at 7!!



September 2010

board of directors

President: Matt Bigler
Vice President: Mike Poe
Treasurer: Nick Evens
Secretary: Denise Coen

Laura Terpstra
Joyce Barbatti
Steve Brewer
Brian Motzko
Bill Bradford

team members

Club Professional: Brad Clark
Assistant Pro: Greg Dingel
Pro Shop- 319-266-9172

Superintendent: Josh Petersen
Assistant Super: Ryan Pannoff

General Manager: Chad Hoffman
Assistant Manager: Darcy Feuerbach
Club House: 319-266-1975

