



JANUARY 2010



Dear Members,

I am composing this letter before Christmas, so if my tenses are off, that why. This will be the first time in 20 years that all of my family will be spending Christmas together in Pittsburgh. My crew includes my wife Joyce, our sons Michael and Noah, my son Matt and his wife Margaret and their two kids, my twin sister and her son's family from Houston, my little sister, her husband and 4 children and their related families in Pittsburgh. Needless to say, it should be a fun and exciting Christmas for us. I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season as well and are looking forward to healthy and prosperous New Year.

I am sure you are all aware Vertex Development has been trying to get approval for the installation of a cell phone tower on golf course property. The Board of County Commissioners turned down the proposal on December 3rd. My hat is off to the HOA. They stated their case and won. Where it goes from here is up to Vertex. One thing that I want you to understand is this has never been personal. I doubt if there is anyone who owns a small business that would not be interested in the prospect of additional revenue, particularly after the past two years. Our business has been greatly affected by the downturn in the economy. Expenses continue to rise while revenue has taken a steep decline. We simply are not able to raise golf fees to make up the shortfall. We saw this as a way to help keep our business viable.

I want to thank all the residents, golf members, and employees who wrote letters, sent e-mails, and attended the commission meeting on our behalf. I especially want to thank Dee Izzo for standing up and speaking for a group who were in favor of installing the cell tower.

(Mike's letter cont'd)

What I have learned from this experience has been invaluable. The board members of our HOA think River Club residents who are golf course members should not have an opinion that counts. If you are a member and my friend, you have no right to comment on the cell tower or our HOA budget which used your annual dues to fight the tower, but who has more at stake than you? Not only do you pay the HOA dues, your golf memberships help pay for the maintenance of this course. That is something more than 90% of the residents cannot claim. The testimony they presented to the commissioners indicated they share the value of what our golf course brings to the community. Many speakers, under oath, stated the golf course was the focal point of the development and its pristine condition was invaluable to them. They even played a video to further present their case. However, the majority of them have never played golf here and the association has never contributed one dime towards the maintenance of the course.

Quite to the contrary, they continually find ways to reduce the money we have to maintain the golf course. In recent months, we have been informed the association intends to replace all the drainage pipes between the lakes located within the development and the golf course is expected to pay a major share. The project is estimated to cost \$600,000. We had to hire our own engineer to do testing to determine if this work is even necessary. As of this date, we do not know what the outcome will be with the home owners association.

Enough said. I will get off my soap box for now. Joyce and I will continue to do everything it takes to keep this course in the best condition possible. You may see me out on the mower or her pulling weeds but we are hoping things are turning around and we will have a good season. Ben has included the club tournaments for 2010 in this newsletter. Let's have outstanding participation in all of our events.

Sincerely, Mike Pascuzzi
Owner/General Manager



Doug Powell
Course Superintendent

TURF NEWS

Dear Members,

It's that time of the year when we can catch up on tree trimming, pepper tree removal and general cleanup. This year we plan to remove some Palmetto's in key landing zones. Most of these are close to the fairways or near greens and located mostly on the back nine. This will both speed up play and ease maintenance. We will also continue to remove pepper trees which encroach onto the golf course.

One positive effect of the colder weather is the increased speed of the greens. The down side is that colder temperatures do not promote growth. During warmer periods, we will be aerifying (very small holes). You may notice them for one day and the roll of the ball will not be affected. We have also lightly seeded the greens for the last time this winter season.

I'll take this opportunity to wish all of you a Happy New Year.

Sincerely, Doug Powell

From the Desk of Ben McCoy

Dear Members,

I wish all of you Happy Holidays and good health for 2010. Congratulations to all our champions and participants from the past year. We hold the club events for our members so please feel free to sign up. In December we had a member-member for our men and women. Finishing 1st in the men's division was Steve Gilcrist and Frank Freeman with a score of 64. Bob Griesman and Hans Pressler were runner-ups. Peggy Kunkle and Bev Whitlock teamed up to shoot 68 to win the women's division. Barb Coletta and Taffie Brisley finished a close second. Below, you will find the 2010 tournament schedule. Please take time now to put these dates on your calendars and plan to participate in 2010.

Our Pro Shop is stocked with 2010 golf bags, shoes, shirts and outer wear for men and women. Stop in and see the new merchandise and check for sale items.

Sincerely, Ben McCoy, PGA Head Professional

2010 Tournament Schedule

February 27-28 th	Senior Championship
March 20-21 st	Club Championship
April 9, 10, 11 th	Member-Guest
April 25 th	Couples Championship
May 4 th	Ladies Invitational

GREAT SHOTS

Bob Griesman – Hole in One # 15

Todd Read – Eagle #10

Driving Range Hours - 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Pool Hours

7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (The Pool is not be heated during the winter months)

Costs Non– Members \$3.00 adults / \$1.50 Children under 16

Tennis Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Costs Non– Members: \$2.00 per hour (daytime)
\$4.00 per hour (nighttime)

Note: No Life Guard on Duty!

Rules:

All swimmers and tennis players must check into the Pro Shop before entering the swimming pool or the tennis courts.

An adult must accompany swimmers under the age of 16.

Non– Members will be required to leave a drivers license or credit card when they get a key.

There are sign-up sheets to reserve tennis courts.

Pro Shop 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Tee Times Reservations

Members: 7 days in advance

Non-Members: 6 days in advance

(Call 751-4211 starting at 7:00 a.m.)

Golf Carts must be in prior to sunset

Golf Lessons by Appointment: Call 751-4211

Tennis Lessons by Appointment

John Purdon – 351- 2676

Pro Shop Manager–Joyce Pascuzzi