

November

2011

Bucknell Golf Club

Newsletter

Executive Officers:

John McCluskey:	President
Dave Grill	Vice President
Dennis Swank	Treasurer
Sharon Pearce	Secretary
Mike Patterson	

Board Members and Committee Chairs:

John McCluskey	Marketing
Dave Grill	Green
Dennis Swank	Nominating
Sharon Pearce	Event Planning
Mike Patterson:	Facilities
Bonnie Best	Memorial
Mike Patte	Policy
Al Kline	Handicap
Shea Madden	Membership
Ken Wagner	Communications
Jim Cotner,	Invitational
Jim Holtzapple,	Invitational
Tom Starmack	Invitational
Jessica Olinginski	Volunteer

Association Representation:

Mens' Association President:
Tom Starmack
Ladies' Association President:
Sharon Pearce

From the President's Golf bag

Something for everyone

I was having a conversation with a long time member the other day and she recalled the days at the Club when yearend dinners were formal affairs and the requisite attention to dress and detail were eagerly pursued by the attendees and the organizers. Although we have since lost that particular demonstration of our collective impulse at the Club, others have endured, reformed, or are new.

Serving on the Board and doing committee work has been a constant since the Club's formation over eighty years ago. Members continue to volunteer their best ideas and counsel as to how to manage the Club and the course. Trying to answer the question "What is best for Bucknell Golf Club?" can be a challenging and elusive endeavor. Thankfully, there have been enough people over the decades who have come together in order to try and answer that question. The Men's and Ladies Associations provide input as well, as both organizations have an active constituency.

The Club hosts quite a few competitive golf events and many members participate in these tournaments and league competitions. And, for those who cherish disorganization, ad hoc foursomes go out all the time just to enjoy each other's company with some adding extra incentives to play well. There are plenty of serious golfers who would rather eat worms than make a double bogey while others are out having a good time by just enjoying the trip around the course. Quite a few of the women who often play nine holes seem particularly adept at having fun and you can often hear laughter coming over some hill when they are out playing.

There are some long time members who, as a group, have breakfast together once a week. Their collective knowledge of Bucknell Golf Club could fill volumes. Some don't play that much anymore but their connection to the Club is as strong as when they did play regularly. Parents are out in the evening with their kids who are teeing off from some made up distance to the green in order for the hole to fit their skill level and the parents' quota of patience. Individuals show up at the range during the day or after work and there is that sharing of hope and hopelessness that seems a trademark for those crazy enough to actually practice. Students are out playing in their own groups and enjoying a University asset that very few institutions can offer. Green fee foursomes from the area come and play here and appreciate the conditions and setup.

Outside tournament players of all skill levels compete and often are lending support to various charities and causes; the Club offers a venue where these groups can get supporters together. It is fun to watch the kids at the junior golf schools; they have the ability to stroke a putt not caring if it goes in, truly something to be jealous of. They seem to intuitively get the collective experience of the school and the game as they walk en masse from the practice green to the range or up number one fairway. The golf teams compete and practice here and offer a model of the student athlete that can be instructive to the member who strives to be a "worker athlete." The different iterations of the skins game are a terrific venue for new and old members to get a round in and experience solid competition.

I have probably failed to mention some grouping that has formed and evolved at the Club but saying there is something for everyone here wouldn't be far from the truth. There is an irony of course in all of this as it is difficult to identify a sport that is more individualistic and unrelenting in its scoring and its rules. Perhaps that is why so often the idea of being in a group while experiencing the game becomes important.

Maybe we can have a tent party and a dinner dance some day with a good jazz band just to see if we might want to try that particular back to the future; it could be fun – who knows?

Hope you get the chance to enjoy the fall golf and I am personally looking forward to the winter as, at least, it usually doesn't rain much in January.

John McCluskey
President

*"Golf is a great and glorious game. Even those of us who earn our livings at it play it more for the pleasure than for the money."
-Arnold Palmer*

From The Pro Shop

SATURDAY, DEC. 3RD
11:00 AM to 5PM
ANNUAL PRO SHOP
CHRISTMAS
PARTY & SALE



Off season conditioning:

As the golf season comes to a close and winter sets in, it's a great time to start getting ready for the next golf season by improving your strength and flexibility. I'm not going to pretend to be trainer and tell you what you should and shouldn't do, but the trainers I have worked with over the years have allowed me to maintain the same driving distance that I had when I was 30 years old. A simple program of strength and flexibility done 3-4 times per week can help you increase your club head speed and enjoy the game even more. Get off the couch this winter and help your golf game in the spring!

Brian Kelly **Golf Professional**

Lunge With A Twist

This exercise strengthens your legs and improves upper body rotation, giving noticeable improvement in very short time..

Holding a small hand weight, stand with your arms hanging straight in front of the body, palms facing inwards.

Lunge forward with your right leg, with arms coming up to the horizontal position, palms down.

Rotate your upper body to the right side, keeping arms at chest height.

Return to starting position and repeat with the right leg.

Do 3 sets of 6 reps each side

Seated Twist

This exercise is similar to the one above, but isolates the lower body and concentrates your effort on the upper body.

Sit erect on a balance [stability] ball or chair

Hold the dumbbell palms down, straight out in front of your chest

Maintain the erect posture, and head facing forwards whilst you rotate your arms and shoulders as far to the right as is possible without the head moving.

Slowly reverse through the starting position, then around to the left side.

Do 3 sets of 6 reps on each side.

From the Greenside

Aerification is a very important practice that contributes to successful turf. It must be done at a time when the soil will most benefit. This is generally done before or after a heavy golfing season and at a time when the temperature is moderate and the roots and leaf blades will grow in and over the holes. This summer we tried a new technology called Dryject. This process incorporates sand into the upper root zone of our “push up” greens. Over time this injection system will produce a faster, firmer and smoother putting surface. The healing process is much faster than traditional core aerification. The unknown is how to control the organic matter or thatch in our green profile. To help control this problem, we will lightly top dress the greens to help control the organic matter. We will also be verticutting the greens in spring and fall.



We have already started our broadleaf control applications. This will help control clover which has been a big problem this season. The wet weather we have experienced this September has delayed these applications. We will continue as weather conditions allow.

I want to thank Dave Grill for organizing members to come out to fill in divots. Dave and the other members who joined him are helping Bucknell Golf Club be the best it can be!

2011 will be remembered as a year of extremes. Our challenge has been dealing with wet and or hot weather. As I said in the spring, we are behind in mowing and herbicide and fungicide applications to our greens, fairways and tees. The damage done to the course from maintenance equipment and carts will be repaired when the weather allows. The turf that has been lost from disease will be reseeded this fall. My staff and I appreciate your patience. I would also like to thank my entire staff for a job well done despite all the challenges we have encountered this season.

I would remind the membership to obey the cart rules (especially under these wet conditions), replace or fill divots, repair ball marks, and use litter control. As always, continue to make Bucknell Golf Club the best it can be.

WORK DAY FOR 2012 will be March 17th (rain date March 24)

**For Better Turf,
“Charley”
Charles E. Lincicome CGCS**

“Keep your sense of humor. There’s enough stress in the rest of your life to let bad shots ruin a game you’re supposed to enjoy.”
-Amy Alcott

From the Green Committee



We are completing one of the most difficult years weather-wise that we have experienced in a long time. I personally don't remember a golf season this wet in the nearly twenty years that I have been a member at BGC. Charley and his staff have done a great job dealing with these difficult conditions and we all appreciate their efforts.

I thank everyone who has helped this year in response to our requests to come out and work on our golf course – the Spring Work Day and the several divot repair events we have had throughout the golf season. Your participation has definitely improved the condition of our golf course. Look for announcement of more events as we end our

season and please come out and join us – these will be opportunities to put our fairways in the best condition they can be before winter and to be ready for next Spring.

The bag room has a supply of divot mix bottles for our walking members. Please pick one up and use it as you play. For our riders our golf carts all have two divot mix bottles. All golfers are encouraged to use these to repair their fairway divot and one or two more – this only takes a few seconds and if we all join in the effort, it will make a significant improvement in our fairways. After you fill a divot, please tamp the sand down with your foot as mounded sand can dull the blades of our fairway mowers.

The bottles can be refilled from the divot mix boxes located at each of our par three tees as well as the 6th and 14th tees.

As golfers, we each have a responsibility to leave the golf course in the best condition we can as we play. This means we need to repair our divots, fix our ball marks on the greens, rake the bunkers that we play from and refrain from leaving trash on the golf course. We should all go a step further and not only repair our own divots/ball marks but also one or two more and look for and repair damage and retrieve trash that others have left.

The Green Committee meets on the first Tuesday of each month in the clubhouse at 6 p.m. Any member of the Club is welcome to attend and participate in our meetings. If you would like to be a member of the Green Committee, please let me know, we would appreciate your involvement.

If you have any concerns that you would like the committee to address, let any member of the committee know. The members of the Green Committee are Bonnie Best, Don Bowman, Jane Harley, Wayne McDiffet, Dave Maier, Mike Patterson, Jeff Ranck, Ken Wagner, Brian Kelly, Charley Lincicome, Jim Laubach and Dave Grill.

**Dave Grill,
Chairman, Green Committee**



PLEASE RECYCLE

Recycle bins for glass, plastic and aluminum cans have been placed in and around the clubhouse. Please use them. Do not put recyclable items in the trash buckets.

Notes

LADIES ASSOCIATION

Our 2011 season came to an end with our fall Banquet/Meeting on October 4th. Our season was filled with a great turn out for the Tuesday play. New games were introduced to the 18 holers thanks to Barb Shipman and Elaine Patton. It seemed to help bust interest and hopefully will lead to a better ladies attendance next season. The 9 holers once again had a wonderful turn-out. Our involvement in tournament play still remains small, but we did manage to increase play in some events by a few.

As your past president, I want to thank everyone for their support and cooperation over the last two years. I did enjoy the position and plan on remaining an active member of the association. Also, I wanted to thank Brian and his staff for the support on Tuesdays. I know that at times the weather made Kevin's job a challenge. Your new President will be Sharon Pearce and your Vice-President is Carmen Terry. Please show them your support by getting out and being part of the Ladies Association. See you in the Spring.

Bonnie Best

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

Steps are in the works to get the Bud & Helen Ranck garden completed for the spring of 2012. The committee met with Brad Zimmerman and we have finally put some-thing on paper and as Brad gets time this fall, work will begin. An additional area is being planned in memory of our friend Kathy Hertzog. We are planning on addressing the small pond in the memorial garden behind the first tee.

As a group, we are always looking for individuals that would like to be a part of the committee. If you are interested, please contact me, we would be glad to have you.

Bonnie Best
Chairman, Memorial Committee

"Golf is the most human game of all. You have the same highs and lows - sometimes in the same game."
-Lee Trevino

STAFF PROFILE

John Trojan,
Grounds Crew



John was born on March 1, 1981. He grew up and lived in Penns Creek with his parents, Merlin and Eileen and his sister Charity. He attended Middleburg Schools and graduated from Middleburg High School in 1999. After high school he attended Penn College and in 2002 received a degree in Horticulture, Landscaping and Nursery Technology.

On October 9, 2006 he married Stephanie Knepp. They have two children, Alex 4, and Eden 19 months. John lists hiking, and family outings at Knobels, Half-Way Dam and country fairs as hobbies. Family is very important to him. His Dad, who is in security at Evan Hospital, and his Mother, who is in Administrative Services at Bucknell, his sister and her husband and three sons all live in the area. When asked what was the most important thing in his life, John replied that fulfilling God's will had priority followed by family and career.

John started working part time at the Bucknell Golf Club while still in high school and college. In March 2003, he began as a full time employee. He enjoys his job very much and finds the membership to be friendly and welcoming. According to Charlie, John handles all phases of the job with thoroughness and dedication, "when you ask him to do something, you know it will be done right."

John is a delightful young man with a wonderful smile. If you have not had the privilege of meeting or talking to him, treat yourself and take the time to say hello. You won't be sorry!

Upcoming Board of Directors Vacancies

At the end of December, three Board of Director terms will be ending (one woman's position and two men's positions). If you are interesting in serving, please submit your name to Sharon Pearce by email at sharpa6@yahoo.com or by phone at 570-713-0137. Elections will be held the latter part of November. Board Terms will be for a three year period beginning in January 2012.

Board members serve a vital rote in managing the finances and operation of our golf club. Please consider volunteering to assist with this important endeavor.

Legend Tribute

2011 BUCKNELL GOLF CLUB LEGEND

The following was taken from the tribute to Tim Stockdale written by Dr. John Danella.

For those of you who don't know me, I was a member of this great golf club for about 12 years, until work took me to NE Pennsylvania. Although my body is no longer here, I feel as if my heart never left.

I am grateful for the privilege of saying a few words on behalf of my friend, Tim Stockdale. When I joined this club, two people immediately made me feel welcome. One of them was Wendell Bertram, who was honored as the Legend two years ago, and who was a true gentleman. The other one was Tim Stockdale, who was a true character.

Tim had three great loves: his family, Penn State football and the Bucknell Golf Club. He played this course as a youngster growing up in Lewisburg and then joined as a member when he returned to Lewisburg as an adult. He served as the President of the Men's Association for 6 years, participated in all of the tournaments and work days, as well as the Men's League every year. In fact, Tim was such an avid Men's League participant that he had convinced his wife, Terry, that league season extended past Halloween, obligating his continuing to play on Thursday or Tuesday afternoons into the late Fall.

Tim loved to needle his friends and fellow golfers. He never failed to remind me, as I was teeing my ball on number 18, that there was OB to the right, as if I needed a reminder. He once described our friend Craig Keller's golf swing as a mix of natural golf and un-natural golf. Nothing pleased him more than to win a hole from you after you had driven your tee ball past his. He'd walk off the green and say "nice drive". And of course, many of us have been victimized by Tim's car horn in the middle of our swing. To Tim's credit though, he laughed at himself when the jabs were returned.

Tim must have been extremely efficient at his job as a postmaster. I say this because many of us were the recipients of dozens of electronic messages, monkey grams, and e-card greetings that originated from his office.

Tim used to be very bothered that his brother Andy had several holes-in-one before he had any. Finally during a round at Penn National, Tim had an ace, and then remarkably a few days later he had one on the 4th hole here. He informed me after the second one that he expected to have 6 or 7 by the end of the season. Tim's most notable golfing accomplishment may have been to win both of the coveted POS and HA Trophies, a dubious honor I'm afraid that I shared with him. Tim was also known as the Chairman of "the committee", that August body that arranged the POS and HA Tournaments. I think it speaks for itself that after Tim passed, we never named another chairman as his shoes really were too big to fill.

I know that Tim would have been very proud to have been named a Legend. In fact, I'm sure he's up in Heaven's Clubhouse right now, bragging to our other missed friend, Dave Dagle that he, Tim, is a Legend and Dave is not.

I think about my friend often, and miss him greatly, but I know that Tim would want us to celebrate this weekend, to compete hard but fairly, and to have fun, so let's do just that.