

UNITED STATES GOLFING



FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS

Summer USGFR Newsletter

2014

The 2014 Summer issue of the USGFR Newsletter is available this year on our web site along with many other interesting tidbits, photos and other information relating to our latest golfing venue and future golfing venues. Go to www.usgfr.com



USGFR

United States Golfing



Fellowship of Rotarians



Editor's Note

This is my first newsletter, so be easy on me. However, if there were any omissions or errors, or if you have any suggestions please let me know.

Denny Horack
Cards4dh@comcast.net

President's Message *from* Bill Durmer



The 25th Tournament of the Hardy Golfers of USGFR

Our 2014 Tournament was full of mirth and a great mix of warm fellowship, terrific golf treks, and accommodations right on the white sands of the Gulf of Mexico. The Perdido Beach Resort executed perfectly – I'll elaborate later.

We send our congratulations to Rich Lytle, the 2014 USGFR Men's Gross Champion, and Larry Newman, the 2014 Men's Net Champion. In the Women's group, we congratulate Millie MacKenzie as the 2014 Gross Champion, and Liz Grulke as the 2014 Net Champion. Hooray!

Thanks to Elaine Durmer (my wife) who played a large part of this year's Tournament. She handled the budgets from the beginning, and during the Tournament she drove the non-golfers to fun tours – thanks Sweetie. Jim Stewart, from the Foley Club, was our Tournament Director and MC of the awards evening. Thanks to you, Jim.

We made some changes in the USGFR Executive Committee. Millie MacKenzie has finished 10 years as our Executive Secretary – THANK YOU, Millie!!!! – and Jim Brock has taken on those big shoes. Denny Horack has jumped into the creation of the newsletter from Nate Naden's many years – thanks Nate. Gary Hernandez will now be the Handicap Chair, previously was handled by Jim Brock. Jim Quinn has moved from Northwest Region to Southwest Region.



We have 10 new Members who joined us in Gulf Shores. Dennis Guiser (Beverly) from IL, Peter Koukos (Peg) from IL, Ed Happ from SC, Shyam Kotwal (Suman) from FL, Peter Towne from SC, Don Forbes from NZ, Bill Tucker from SC, Peter Knudsen from ON, Canada, Mark Snow from KS and Ed Dowaschinski from SC. Welcome, Welcome.

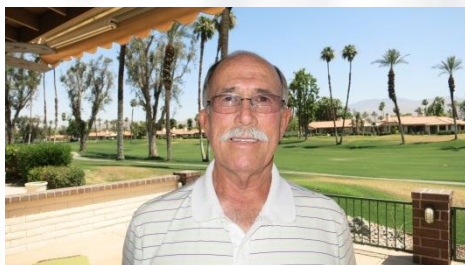
Now the elaboration from the 1st paragraph. We had a practice round on Monday (Penninsula). Then, on Tuesday, we played our first scoring 18 on the same course. Some of us had to cut short at 16 holes as lightning started, and we RAN back to Perdido. Tuesday evening was heavy rain into Wednesday – flooding rain 16 to 22 inches down. No Courses were open – the Superintendents were strong at work to provide golf for Thursday – yes (amazing)! Soooo, Perdido Beach Resort opened our lobby Hospitality room quite early, manned it, and we played Bingo for the afternoon. Their service was incredible. Thanks Perdido Beach Resort.

Lastly, here's the really important stuff for you. Go to your 2015 calendar – Right now! – and circle the dates of May 16th to 20th for your Tournament at Hilton Head – its our 26th. We're looking forward to seeing ya'll in South Carolina.

In Fellowship,

Bill Durmer,

President



Greetings *from your Executive Secretary,*



Jim Brock

Greetings to all Rotarian Golfers!

I officially took over the Executive Secretary duties following our recently completed 2014 National Championship in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

I'm stepping into some mighty big shoes in replacing Millie MacKenzie, our executive Secretary for the past ten years. On behalf of the Executive Committee and all USGFR members, I thank you for your dedicated service. Ten years in the position is truly Service Above Self! Millie, please know that although you've officially retired from the position, I expect you to be on call 24/7...I know I'll have question after question for you.

USGFR membership numbers are up slightly from a year ago: 301 members (168 lifetime members and 133 annual members) and the Fellowship finances remain steady from last year.

Your Executive Committee recently made a change to how you are represented. We've divided the United States into three zones – Eastern, Central and Western – with three directors responsible for the northern, middle, and southern regions of each zone. Canada will remain divided into two zones – Eastern and Western – with a director responsible for each zone. Future tournaments will be rotated among the five zones. The reasoning for the change is to provide greater flexibility in finding suitable venues (and sponsoring clubs) for future national championships. In the United States three directions will also share the responsibility of overseeing upcoming tournaments within their zone.

The Executive Committee continues to seek members to step up and fill director positions. We currently have a vacancy in the north region of the Western zone. Jim Quinn formerly served as Northwest Director but has agreed to serve as the interim Southwest director until a permanent replacement is found. Directors Lawrence Severino (North Eastern) and Nate Naden (North Central) are remaining in their positions but also seeking replacements. Both have served long tenures with the USGFR.

Congratulations to USGFR President Bill Durmer and wife Elaine for their organization of another outstanding National Championships. Held in beautiful Gulf Shores, Alabama, competitors got to experience a truly historic storm during the event but we didn't let the weather dampen the outstanding USGFR Fellowship. Despite nearly 20 inches of rain in a 24-hour period, we only lost one day of competition. Thanks, Bill and Elaine, for your hard work and remarkable ability to make adjustments on the fly!

If you were not able to be with us this year in Gulf Shores, I urge you to make plans now to join us at Hilton Head island, South Carolina, May 16th to 20th, 2015. Members of the Hilton Head Sunset Rotary Club are planning a wonderful event filled with outstanding golf, great tours and spectacular Rotary Fellowship. I hope to see a record crowd at Hilton Head!

Editor's note

I cannot start my first newsletter without giving a big thank you to Nate Naden for being the editor for a long time. I've been to the last five venues and he was providing the notes probably before that trip to Lake Tahoe. Don't get all misty eyed, Nate, as you owe me. This slick retired insurance guy really sold me on this job. This is a big job. I received about 400 photos from a variety of members and they were stored in my computer. However, I had to get the help of a first grader to retrieve them and assemble them for this publication.

Nate also told me to take notes. Unfortunately I only took one note.

After a long day of travel we finally arrived at The Perdido Beach Resort. The staff checked Bobbi and me in with all the courtesies of the South. They suggested that we go to the lounge and have a cool drink and relax while they had our luggage delivered to our room. I noted that they served Ying Ling beer, which is supposed to be the oldest brew in America. After a Ying Ling or two I was ready to start the 25th Anniversary USGFR tournament.

Denny Horack, Editor, and new grandfather to Clayton!



Golfing Award Winners

2014 Gross National Champion

Rich Lytle

2014 Net National Champion

Larry Newman

- 
- Men's Division #1: 1st Nate Naden
2nd Frank Smith
3rd Bob Blum
- Men's Division #2: 1st Bill Durmer
2nd Bruce Christensen
3rd Peter Knudsen
- Men's Division #3 : 1st Jim Quinn
2nd Leo Lauzon
3rd Dennis Guise John Reynolds
- Net 1st Liz Grulke
- Gross 1st Millie MacKenzie
- Team Winners 1st Rich Lytle & Peter Knudsen
2nd Nate Naden & Liz Grulke





FUTURE USGFR VENUES

2015 Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

26th Annual USGFR National Championships

May 16 – 20, 2015

Schedule

- Saturday, May 16th:** Early Registration and directors meeting
- Sunday, May 17th:** Registration, practice round, opening ceremonies
- Monday, May 18th:** Golf (Oyster Reef), tour and fellowship at Sonesta Pavilion
- Tuesday, May 19th:** Golf (Arthur Hills), tour and Free Night
- Wednesday, May 20th:** Golf (Robert Cupp), tour, and Awards Banquet

Sonesta Resort

- Book by April 15th, 2015
- Daily rate of \$231 (includes breakfast for two) good for 3 days before and after tournament dates
- Register Online at www.sonesta.com/hiltonheadisland
- Enjoy the Arum Spa, Atlantic Ocean Beach, pool and hospitality

Things to do on Hilton Head

- Rose Hill Mansion and wine tasting
- Cruise Calibogue Sound and dolphin watch
- Visit Harbour Town, see the sights, shop and have lunch
- Take a Gullah Tour and visit the Coastal Discovery Museum

How to Get Here

- Savannah or Hilton Head Island airports are minutes away
- If coming by car, visit www.usgfr2015.com for detailed travel info
-

Registration Options

- 3-day golfer: \$791
- 2-day golfer: \$676
- Non-golfer: \$617

PERDIDO BEACH AT A GLANCE:

Sunday, April 27, 2014

This was arrival day for some and the directors' dinner was that evening hosted by President Bill Durmer and his wife Elaine.



A vicar was a keen golfer, and couldn't help sneaking off to play a round one Sunday. An angel was watching him and told God, "Look at the preacher down there, abandoning his duties to play golf on a Sunday. He should be punished."

God agreed, and promised to act. A few minutes later, the vicar hit a super hole-in-one on a 350 yard hole. The angel was annoyed and said to God, "I thought you were to punish him. Instead he's just hit a perfect hole-in-one!". God smiled and answered, "Think about it - who can he tell?"

Denny's top five things

(in no particular order!)

1. Fellowship & Friends
2. Bill & Elaine
3. Perdido Beach Resort
4. Golf
5. Foley Rotary Club

Best Wishes,
Denny Horack

Monday, April 28, 2014

For those who chose, there was a practice round available at the Peninsula Golf Resort at 8:00 AM. And, for some of the non-golfers, Elaine Durmer had a tour available to the USS Alabama and the Mardi Gras Museum.



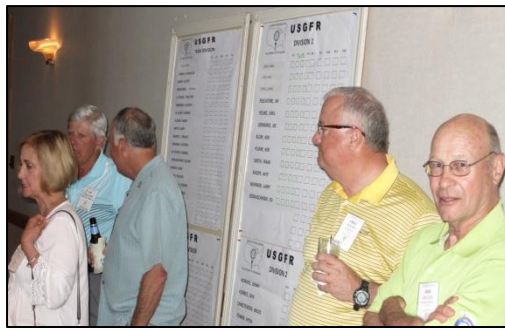
Pro's Favorites

GolfWorld magazine asked 81 PGA Tour pros to name their favorite courses on the Tour schedule. The top 10 from first to last are: Augusta National, Riveira, Pebble Beach, Colonial, Muirfield Village, Shaughnessy, Aronimink, Innisbrook, Congressional, and a course which will be available at next year's event, Harbour Town.

Monday, April 28, 2014

Also, that afternoon at 2:00 PM was the board of directors meeting. At that meeting, it was made official that Jim Brock would follow Millie MacKenzie as secretary. Gary Hernandez would follow Jim Brock as tournament handicap chair. And, I would follow Nate Naden as newsletter editor. The big topic was increasing our numbers. We need to recruit our fellow golfers and get them to attend one venue. If they attend one, they will be hooked. The golf is always great, but the fellowship is the hook!

- A hospitality room was available from 4:30 – 5:30 PM.
- Our flag raising and invocation took place at 5:30 PM
- The golfers meeting was at 5:45 PM
- The tours meeting was also at 5:45 PM
- The opening reception with appetizers from 6:30 – 9:30 PM



A golfer has an advantage over a fisherman. He doesn't have to produce anything to prove his story.

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

The first day of the tournament was at the beautiful Peninsula Golf Resort. Although the weather tried to cooperate, some of us only played 16 holes. When the weather horn sounded we ran for the clubhouse. Fortunately, they had Ying Ling on tap.



While we hardy golfers, (no pun intended Jim), some of the non-golfers headed to the lovely Bellingrath Gardens. And again, escorted by Elaine Durmer. The attendees were impressed as the accolades were many that evening.



Golfer: Will you stop looking at your watch all the time, its distracting me

Caddie: It's not my watch. It's my compass.



Tuesday, April 29, 2014

That evening the Foley Rotary Club hosted us at the Sea Chase for dinner. We dined on excellent local cuisine. The Foley Rotarians made us feel right at home. I have noticed that Rotarians are famous around the world for hospitality and they were no exception.



After a long day on the course an annoyed golfer turned to his caddie and said, "you must be the worst caddie in the world." The caddie replied, "I don't think so. That would be too much of a coincidence."



Dinner started at 5:30 and we had a musical treat at around 7:30. The entertainment was provided by Brent Burns. His humorous tunes were of the Baby Boomer influence and he had us laughing during his entire performance. You can always tell a good speaker by the number of questions. With a musician, you can tell by the CD sales at the end. I think I bought the last one. He was great.

Bob Weir sketched this while Brett was playing - wow!

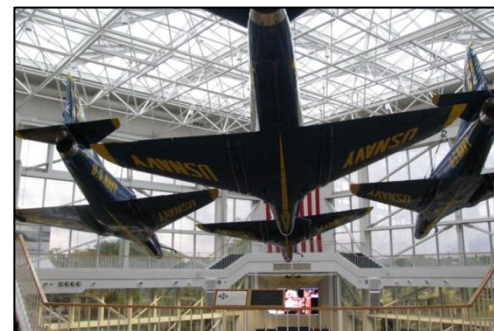


While we were having a great time dining it was raining outside. As noted earlier by Jim Brock, it continued to rain through the night and more than 20 inches of rain was recorded. Needless to say, the golf course could not dry in time for the next day.



Wednesday, April 30, 2014

NO GOLF. And, the Dolphin tour was cancelled. Did Bill and Elaine distress? Oh no, they had plan B ready to go. They set up a hospitality room complete with Ying Ling. Oh there was a variety of soft drinks and wine as well. We played bingo and laughed till our sides split. These events are certainly about the golf but the fellowship and renewed friendships are just as important



Thursday, May 1, 2014

After all that rain Craft Farms let us play. We played the Cotton Creek Course. They cautioned us a about low spots and puddles but the course had drained very well. We had a beautiful day and winners were noted as we looked at the posted scores in the hospitality room that afternoon from 2:00 – 5:00 PM.



Amazing but True Golf Facts

Gifted Hoopsters

Bob Ball, 58, was a standout basketball player at UNC-Charlotte, but did something in 2012 more memorable than anything he ever did on the court. At the Wild Dunes Resort in Charleston, South Carolina, the 7-Handicapper made a double-eagle on the first hole, then aced the par-3 16th. Although rare, the feat has been done before, including once by legendary basketball coach John Wooden.





When I'm on a golf course and it starts to rain and lightning, I hold up my one-iron, because I know even God can't hit a one-iron."

-Lee Trevino

The awards dinner was held from 6:00 – 9:00 PM. We had a great meal and ample time to visit with old and new friends. The freshman class was announced and celebrated. The winners were of all divisions were noted and trophies were graciously accepted. In addition, Millie MacKenzie was recognized for her many years of service as secretary. And last, tribute was given to the Foley Rotary Club president, Jim Stewart and to Bill & Elaine Durmer for a memorable venue.

Now, to start thinking about Hilton Head!





New Members

We have 10 new Members who joined us in Gulf Shores. Dennis Guiser (Beverly) from IL, Peter Koukos (Peg) from IL, Ed Happ from SC, Shyam Kotwal (Suman) from FL, Peter Towne from SC, Don Forbes from NZ, Bill Tucker from SC, Peter Knudsen from ON, Canada, Mark Snow from KS and Ed Dowaschinski from SC.



2014 USGFR National Tournament Attendees

First Name	Last Name	Street Address	City	State	Zip	Email
Bob and Carol	Blum	555 Front Street #1604	San Diego	CA	92101	bob@riblumlaw.com
Jim and Susan	Brock	935 Castellana N	Palm Desert	CA	92260	jimbrock@tarbell.com
Frank	Celico	15 Beach St	Westerly	RI	02891	frankcelico@thewinestoreRI.com
Bruce and Ronda	Christensen	5019 Alhambra Valley Rd	Martinez	CA	94553	brchristensen@msn.com
Ed	Dowaschinski	31 Misty Morning Dr	Hilton Head Island	SC	29926	dower@roadrunner.com
Bill and Elaine	Durmer	350 Prestwick Ave	Gulf Shores	AL	36542	durmaid@aol.com
Don	Forbes	116 Glandovey Rd	Christchurch	NZ		Forbes.Don@Xtra.LD.Nzrmano
Joe	Germano	405 Claflin Ave	Mamaroneck	NY	10543	fourgirl@optonline.com
Bob and Liz	Grulke	952 Charles Ave	Winthrop Harbor	IL	60096	bobandliz@comcast.net
Dennis and Beverly	Guiser	409 56th St	Kenosha	WI	53140	dennisguiser@gmail.com
Ed	Happ	4 Marsh View Dr	Hilton Head Island	SC	29928	haptax@hargray.com
Jim and Penny	Hardy	1700 Diana Dr	Winter Park	FL	32789	jhardy72@cfl.rr.com
Gary and Clarice	Hernandez	615 Alhambra Ave	Martinez	CA	94553	GHATMAB@aol.com
Denny and Bobbi	Horack	5643 Mt. Hood Ct.	Martinez	CA	94553	cards4dh@comcast.net
Dennis and Nancy	Jewell	PO Box 421712	Kissimme	FL	34742	djewell@cfl.rr.com
Walter	Kimball	42-A Margin St	Westerly	RI	02891	
Sam and Suman	Kotwal	9549 Castleford Pl	Orlando	FL	32837	kotwal9@gmail.com
Pete and Peg	Koukos	1260 Ridge Rd	Highland Park	IL	60035	pkoukos@comcast.net
Peter	Knudsen	2061 Oliver Rd	Thunder Bay, ONT	Can	P7G1P7	pknudsen@equipworld.com
Leo	Lauzon	10120-85 Ave	Grand Prairie AB	Can	T8V3K8	llauzon@telusplanet.net
Ned and Rosalyn	Lester	1755 E. Ridge Dr	Blacksburg	VA	24060	globalcni@aol.com
Rich and Connie	Lytle	14 Resplanador Ct.	Hot Springs Village	AK	71909	rhytle@suddenlink.net
Millie	MacKenzie	PO Box 3074	Sunriver	OR	97707	millie.mackenzie@gmail.com
Nate and Sally	Naden	426 E Hickory Haven Dr	Gurnee	IL	60031	Nate202@aol.com
Larry and Darlene	Newman	14613 Heathermere Ln	Orlando	FL	32837	LCN19862@gmail.com
Jim and Rita	Pescatore	14240 Mountain Quail Rd	Corral De Tierra	CA	93908	JRPESCO@comcast.net
Bob	Plumb	PO Box 180734	Coronado	CA	92178	lawplumb@yahoo.com
Jim	Quinn	310 Grove Acre Ave	Pacific Grove	CA	93950	Reilly97@pacbell.net
John and Dee	Reynolds	2520 S.W Still Meadows Ln	Blue Springs	MO	64015	jreynolds@quickdeliveryinc.com
Lawrence	Severino	200 Saxon Woods Rd	White Plains	NY	10605	lseverino11@verizon.net
Jim and Nancy	Sissons	2182 Stonehaven	Niagra Falls, ON	Can	L2J4K2	sissons@msflawyers.com
Frank	Smith	PO Box 796	Crockett	TX	75835	valeriekaysmith@yahoo.com
Mark	Snow	15275 Melrose Dr	Overland Park	KS	66221	msnow@lonigansnow.com
Peter	Towne	113 Club Course Dr	Hilton Head Island	SC	29928	PATowne@aol.com
Bill	Tucker	72 Governors Rd	Hilton Head Island	SC	29928	imnsured@aol.com
Tom	VanDyke	11501 High Dr	Leawood	KS	66211	twvandyke@bryancave.com
Bob	Weir	9732 Nieman Pl	Overland Park	KS	66214	
Greg and Melanie	Young	30200 SW Bald Peak Rd	Hillsboro	OR	97123	gsycpa@comcast.net
Peter	Young	213 Phillips St	Thunder Bay, ONT	Can	P7BG9	pyounglaw@tbaytel.net