

# The Creek & The Valley Member Gazette

July 24, 2006

## Great weather brings out golfers

Mid-season is already upon us and golf is still heating up. We have gone through some extreme weather in the past month and the courses are holding their own. The greens are in the best shape ever and the overall conditions continue to improve. On July 17 we had a major storm BLOW through Thomas Township and Swan Valley lost a few trees

## Breakfast Scramble

The first breakfast scramble of 2006 was a big success. 28 golfers participated in the event the team of Ken Smith, Max, and James won first prize with a score of -14 under par and received gift certificates for their accomplishment.



The last place team of Steve Jones, Darryl Tucker, Dave, and Steve Smith were also awarded gift certificates for their score of -8 under par. This was the most members we have had participate and after the word gets out on how much fun the event was, we will definitely have more for the next event which is scheduled for September 9th.

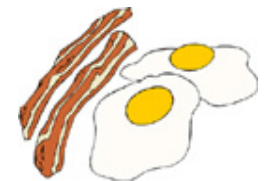
### Member cost:

Single \$12.00

Couple \$20.00

Non Member \$32.50

Sign-up in the pro-shops.



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### SPECIAL FEATURE

- *Woman behind the numbers*



# THE CREEK & THE VALLEY

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Breakfast Scramble July 8, 2006

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### View From the Pro-Shop

In my second season as Director of Golf Operations at Swan Valley & Crooked Creek, I want to again thank the 2006 members for being patient with me in 2005. As I worked over the winter months, yes Michigan golf directors do work in the winter months, I had a better perspective on how things could be improved at the golf courses. One thing I worked hard on over the winter was establishing a computer network within the entire Crooked Creek Investment Company. This will help with internal as well as external communica-



Dave Buko, Director of Golf Operations

tions. The computer in the Swan Valley pro-shop is also part of the computer network which collects data on rounds played, merchandised purchased, member profiles and much more. This data will help Swan Valley provide better products and services to our members and will allow us to better target our marketing efforts. Welcome back and I look forward to a great golf season. If you have any concerns or suggestions please feel free to call me or leave a message in the pro-shops .

### Special Feature

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*"I really enjoyed the golf course, it's a pretty tough course!"*

*Arthur Hill Golfer*

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On May 16th the Tri-Valley girls High School golf teams converged onto Swan Valley Golf Club. "This was a true test for these girls", quote Bill Stelter , organizer of the golf tournament. Ten Teams met on this day to decide who would be the Tri-Valley champion. Mt. Pleasant High School came out on top

by 14 points over Midland High. "Thanks to Swan Valley for allowing the girls to play at your golf course." quoted Bill Stelter .



### Golf Association of Michigan GAM



Returning in 2006 is the GAM official Handicap program. For a small fee of \$20 you can acquire a 2006 GAM gold card and receive an official USGA handicap and discounts at other participating GAM courses in Michigan. Members are able to view their handicap on-line as well as input your scores on-line.

You can also input your scores right at the Swan Valley pro-shop counter. If you are interested there are applications at the Swan Valley pro-shop counter. For more information go to [www.GAM.org](http://www.GAM.org)

### View From the Green

The course weathered the winter well and we suffered very little frost damage to the greens. Some of you may have noticed the seeding grass on the greens. This is called Poa-annual (Po-anna) which is a native grass that seeds in the spring and is hard to control. There are



Mike Martell Greens Superintendent

ways to control it but those ways are very expensive and could make the greens less dense. The seed head grows for about two weeks and then is gone. Conditions will improve on the greens once the Poa-anna has taken it's path. The courses have taken on a lot of rain this spring and some parts of the courses are wet. Please try to avoid those areas. We are working hard to maintain those wet areas. It's great to have everyone back this year, enjoy the golf courses.



Poa-Annual

### Crooked Creek Improvements

Plans are being considered to add a retention pond at Crooked Creek between holes #11 and #17. The pond will run along the left side of #11 fairway and will also cross in front of Hole #15. This addition is needed to hold water for irrigation for the golf course. The improvements are being designed by renowned golf architect Jerry Mathews. Jerry re-designed #17 at

Crooked Creek in 2002 as well as the entire redesign of Swan Valley in the 90's. "The pond will be a beautiful addition to the golf course and will add a new dimension to holes 11, 15 and 17.", quoted Len Lefevre, golf course owner. If the plans are approved by the Board of Directors, the construction will start in the Fall of 2006.

