

The Creek & The Valley Member Gazette

March 1, 2007



Mild winter favors Golf Courses

Anybody ready to get out and play some golf? Everyone forgot they said they were quitting golf last year due to a bad round and are getting antsy to get out and play golf.

Punxsutawney Phil the ground hog, didn't see his shadow which means a shorter winter and warmer weather right around the corner. The mild winter didn't allow the ground to freeze until early January and could have left the greens vulnerable for diseases. The fertilizing completed in the fall should prevent any problems with the greens and the 2007 golf season will be underway soon.



Club Membership

Over the past two years, membership at Swan Valley & Crooked Creek has increased roughly 10 percent every year. The 2007 membership count is heading in that same direction and hopefully even higher. A reminder, if a current member signs-up a new member, that current member receives a \$50 refund for each additional new member. This is a great incentive to grow our member base and reduce your cost for membership.

We are renewing our relationship with Sandy Ridge GC in Auburn and have also partnered with Maple Leaf GC in Linwood, to offer SV & CC golfers an opportunity to play one round per month at each course for \$15 which includes cart.

We will be planning special member events throughout the summer and will kickoff the season with a **St. Patrick's Day party** at Crooked Creek, March 17th at 6 p.m. Music will be provided by our own Bill Crofton and his band "*Connie & The Blues Fusion.*" Authentic Irish cuisine will be served along with green beer to wet your Irish whistle. The general public is welcome, so bring a friend, meet the members and have a great time.

F.Y.I. You will not need a new membership card for the 2007 golf season. Once your membership is renewed, your card will then be activated for the 2007 golf season.



**Bowl 'Till
You Drop!!!**
Wednesdays
50% OFF
Drinks
**ONLY
\$10.00**

Crooked Creek Bowling Center
9387 Gratiot, Saginaw, MI.
989-781-0050

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SPECIAL FEATURE



- Who's the man in the chef's hat?

THE CREEK & THE VALLEY
9521 HIGHLAND GREEN DRIVE
SAGINAW, MI 48609



St. Patrick's Day Party
Saturday March 17th, 6pm-12am

CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT:
989-781-4411



Last printed issue. Check
on-line for next issue.
www.swanvalleygolf.com

View From the Pro Shop

Wow, how time flies! My third season at SV & CC and I still feel like it's my first season. Last year's computer upgrade at the SV golf counter really helped with check-in and data collection for the course. We will duplicate our efforts this year at CC with the same system and improve the check-in process at CC. Your membership cards will be accepted at both courses. I spent most of the winter months, along with the assistance of current member Yudha Pratama, expanding our Web-site, to make it more user friendly and to be able to use it as a marketing tool. There



Dave Buko, Director of Golf Operations

are many new features on the site including on-line tee time reservations, pictorial view of the golf courses with hole descriptions, calendar of events, league information, membership information and much more. We also included all of the businesses that are connected to The Crooked Creek Investment Company, LeFevre & LeFevre Law Firm, CC Bowling, Vicki White Realtor and CC & SV Banquet facilities. This is the last printed newsletter you will receive in the mail. The next newsletter will be posted on the Web-site and printed copies will be available in the pro shops for those who prefer the printed copy.

Special Feature

"Brads banquet chicken is the best in the area!"

**Len LeFevre
Owner**



Brad Bell has been with Crooked Creek & Swan Valley since 1986. Brad's love for cooking started as a boy working for his family's business, "Labelle's Restaurant" on Gratiot. When the business was sold in 1986, Brad joined Swan Valley as a cook in the one time restaurant in the Blue Heron room. When the restaurant closed in 1987, Brad became the head chef for the catering business. Since that time, Brad has been in charge of all food service at CC & SV, including the snack bar at CC, golf out-



ing dinners, special events and weddings. Brad is the son of former Thomas Township Supervisor Norman & Beatrice Bell. Brad grew up in a house with four brothers in Thomas Township and can appreciate how much food his mother had to cook to keep the boys fed. Brad serves over 25,000 dinners and lunches per year to customers at CC & SV. When Brad gets a spare moment, he likes to enjoy a round of golf with friend, Alice, who also works at CC & SV. Keep up the great work Brad!

View From the Green

Even though the courses are closed and the grounds crews are gone, there is no time to hibernate in the winter. One Hundred and fifty carts have to be tuned up and cleaned, mower blades have to be sharpened, engines need to be repaired, snow has to be plowed and side walks need to be shoveled. Not only do we do all those things, but we are also involved in demolition, remodeling and construction of new facilities for CC & SV. Over the winter, a staff of five works on these different tasks



Mike Martell
Greens Superintendent



and believe me, we keep very busy. As we prepare for the 2007 golf season, I am very optimistic that the courses will come out of the winter in great shape. We did all the necessary end of the season tasks to make sure the courses will return in the spring, healthy. The new tee box on CC hole 10 will open at the beginning of the season with the new number 9 tee box right behind it with a later opening date of mid-May. There will be lots of tree branches and debris down on the course so be patient and we will have the courses in tiptop shape in a matter of weeks. Looking forward to a great season. See you on the course.



New Crooked Creek Sports Bar and Grill

Plans are moving forward on remodeling the Crooked Creek snack bar. The changes are going to offer golfers and bowlers a place to sit-down, relax, have a refreshment and or a bite to eat. The new bar will have seating for 80 people, including table, bar and booth seating. A new entrance will be constructed in the front of the building allowing access to the bar. A wall with glass doors will be constructed between the golf counter and the banquet facility allowing the banquet facility to be locked when it is not in use. The bowling facility will also be sectioned off with glass doors allowing



the bowling facility to be locked when it is not in use. This is an exciting project that will expand Crooked Creek's food offering. Entertainment will be offered at the new facility ranging from one and two piece musical groups to special events such as karaoke and open microphone night. The Crooked Creek Management Team is in the design phase of the project and if all goes to plan, you should start seeing changes April 1. Stay tuned! Check out a detailed plan on-line.



www.swanvalleygolf.com