



Sunnyside Country Club Club Lites



November / December / January 2019-2020

“ I can't tell you how proud I am to move up from my five years as a Board Member into the position of your new Board President. ”



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A Message From *Joe Sciarrone*

As we move from what seemed like an abbreviated summer into the welcomed coolness of fall, the gavel of Board President Michael Der Manouel Jr. will have been passed on. I can't tell you how proud I am to move up from my five years as a Board Member into the position of your new Board President. The shoes I fill from Mr. Der Manouel Jr. are quite large, and I don't take the responsibility lightly. Mike has been an outstanding President for the past five years, and an immeasurable asset during his fourteen years as a Board Member. I salute him, and the incredible job he has done overseeing our great Country Club. Mike will continue to have an active presence on the Board, taking over Mr. Rick Docker's position of "Past President". I'm sure they both welcome the much-needed break. When you see them around the Club, give them a pat on the back and a warm "well done".



Board President

As your new President, I am committed to continue the path of perfection that has been laid out for generations before me. I strive for excellence in all that I do and will continue that same mindset as your Board President. For a Country Club to be successful, it must meet and maintain a very high standard, from the course to the food and service. Picture a multi-faceted diamond, if you will.

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Wes Lovell
Membership Chair

Membership Growth

Sunnyside Members Loyal To The Core

It was impressive to see such a large member turnout for our very important Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, October

2nd regarding our greens and our future. We had our longtime members and new members together as one as we discussed turning adversity into a positive future for our historic Club.

Our membership growth in 2019 has been the strongest in many years. We continue to add quality members to Sunnyside's great legacy of being the "Friendliest Club in the Valley", and are coming close to reaching our membership goals as we head toward 2020. The membership committee goals remain 300 golf members and 400 total members. Once we get to those levels, we will evaluate issues such as pace of play, accessibility and other factors, as we continue to advise your Board of Directors on the direction our Club should be headed.

At \$1,250, our four month Trial Membership is a unique, one time opportunity to preview Sunnyside. We are the only Club in the area offering these great introductory memberships to the right member sponsored candidates.

The Membership Committee is super excited about our future at Sunnyside. A new and revamped member orientation was a big success at the end of the summer. We look forward to you bringing guests and member prospects out to the Club once we open our new greens and to enjoy our holiday season programs. The best new members come directly from our existing members, it's one of the reasons why we've been around since 1911.

In recent weeks, I have taken the time to play other Clubs in our area. When one looks at the quality of facilities, outstanding food and beverage offerings, layout and conditions on our golf course and the camaraderie of our Membership – Sunnyside is clearly at the top.

I look forward to seeing you at YOUR club as we wrap up a great 2019!

New Members and Their Sponsors

Heather Rutowicz (Jr. Executive)

Sponsors: Michael Der Manouel, Jr. and
Chris Pacheco

David Schultz (Social with Jr. Golf)

Sponsors: Jon Bettencourt and
Scott Ashman

Michael Sandrini (Trial)

Sponsors: Jim Sandrini and Bill Cornacchia

Jonathan Kendrick (Trial)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Joe Sciarrone

Bradley Kendrick (Trial)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and Wes Lovell

Janelle Beery (Social)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and Wes Lovell

David Lincoln (Business Entity/ Full)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Darren Harper

Shannon McDonald (Business Designee/ Full)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Darren Harper

Ryan Gallock (Business Designee/ Jr. Executive)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Darren Harper

Derek Lincoln (Business Designee/Jr. Executive)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Darren Harper

Zachary George (Trial)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and Ron Beglin

Brent Kendrick (Trial)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and Wes Lovell



New Members & Their Sponsors continued

Keith Berry

(PGA Professional)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Chris Gutilla

Joshua Vargas

(Trial)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
William Barry

Victor Wilcox

(Trial)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Mike Kahaian

Todd Bengtson

(Social with Jr. Golf)

Sponsors: Greg Funk and Gerald Charito

Jared Robillard

(Non-Resident/ Out-of-State)

Sponsors: Joe Sciarone and Phil Radics

Jill Habib

(Social)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
John Emerzian

Jim Holt

(Social)

Sponsors: Steve Menchinella and
Frank Lorenzen

Cont'd message from the Board President

All sides must be equally flawless to not only maintain its value, but also to be selected from the many that are available. Just one blemish, on any one side of the diamond, and the value drops tremendously, and it becomes undesirable. To maintain our reputation as one of the 'Best Country Clubs in the Valley' we must continually seek to be the very best in everything that we do. My commitment to you is to continue the goal of excellence within every aspect of the Club; you have my word on that.

Your Board of Directors also understands their responsibilities to the membership. Our goals for the Club are grounded in what is affordable, necessary, and in the best interest of the membership. While there are difficult decisions and choices to be made, we make them with you in mind. Our Board is filled with highly talented individuals, who want nothing more than to make the right decisions for you and the Club. Remember, we're members first, and want the same experience as you.

Our unforeseen greens project is near full recovery, and we would be amiss if we did not take our hats off to Sierra Golf Management for the way they handled this unfortunate situation. SGM went on the offense, taking aggressive action in trying to save the greens from further damage, but ultimately made the tough decision to wave the white flag when it was clearly apparent the greens could not be saved. The teamwork they displayed to remove the old greens, find new sod that met our specifications, prep the surfaces, then worked with the sod farm to lay out the new greens in what seemed like record time, was nothing short of extraordinary. We thank them for their tireless efforts in getting us back up and running in as short amount of time as possible. This was a blemish, which again, our great membership took in stride. Thank you for your patience.

In closing, I'd like to extend an open door policy to the membership. Please feel free at any time to contact me directly with any questions or concerns you may have. You are the reason we are here, and you are the reason we continue to grow and improve when other clubs throughout the nation are closing their doors. Thank you.



Green Committee

Since the last Clublites issued in August, a lot has happened. At that time our course and greens were in pretty good shape. From mid-July thru August high heat and excessive soil moisture levels led to disease and shallowing of the root systems on the greens. In preparation for the Sequoia Invitational, SGM decided to spray a mix of fertilizer, fungicides, and growth regulators on August 26th. The spray mix was designed to help the greens fight off disease and strengthen the root system. Unfortunately, herbicide was mistakenly added to the spray mix and ended up killing all the greens including the lower practice green.

Regrettably, the Sequoia Invitational and several other outside events needed to be cancelled.

A Town Hall Meeting was held on October 2nd to inform the membership of what took place and what was planned to address the situation. You have also been receiving email updates on the course conditions and progress from SGM.

SGM has taken full responsibility for the mistake and agreed to replace the greens. All the greens have been since re-sodded using a newer bent grass variety name Tyee/007. This variety is the best available for our climate conditions. It has good heat tolerance and grows very well in cooler weather. It was also bred with higher disease resistance.

Temporary greens have been cut and the course is open for play. The Board of Director's understands that the loss of the greens has been very inconvenient for the membership. Traditionally, it is the part of year that playing conditions are the best. Various clubs are allowing Sunnyside members to play at reduced rates while we wait for our greens to be playable. On the bright side, we now have brand new greens that should be ready to be played on by Thanksgiving. The old greens were infested with bermuda grass and poa. We were going to need to fix the greens eventually at a considerable cost. So in this regard it is helping.

The new greens are growing strong and are rooting into the soil. Weather has provided perfect growing conditions. SGM has been working diligently every day. They continue to top-dress and seed seams in the new turf. Along with hand mowing to slowly lower the grass height, the small amount of crabgrass and bermuda that came in with the sod have been removed.

The course has been over-seeded and looks great. Please see the pictures above of the new greens and over-seed.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.



*Mark Anderson
Greens Chair*



House Committee

I am honored in being selected to the Sunnyside Board of Directors for the upcoming term and I'm equally as honored to be serving as the Chairman of the House Committee. Now, if I can figure out what the House Committee does, I will commence leading.

Seriously, the role of the House Committee has changed over the years. In the early days of private clubs, House Committees had the "authority over" and "the responsibility of" the matters of the Clubhouse. In other words, they spent a great deal of time discussing operational details, such as linen colors and plate presentations.

Fast forward to 2019 and we have the luxury of well-educated and well-trained professionals who have the experience, expertise and tools to effectively manage the daily operation.

What then is the responsibility of today's House Committee? In the most successful clubs, it is the sounding board for both membership and various club departments, working collaboratively with the management team and making recommendations to the Board.

The food, service and activities held at Sunnyside Country Club should reflect the desires and wants of the Membership. It is the House Committee's responsibility that those wishes be heard and considered. Certainly, not all activities will appeal to all Membership as our Club is diverse, but making sure that we always have the greater good in mind will be the House Committee's goal.

One idea will be to make Sunnyside a destination; combining entertainment with a themed menu for a complete evening out. Look for a "Touch of Bayou" as we offer jazz and a bit of Cajun faire in November.

As Sunnyside evolves, the challenge is to balance tradition with progression. That will only be achieved through input and support from the Membership; infusing new ideas and creating the energy and excitement that Sunnyside has traditionally displayed.

To good food, good drink and good golf!

Suggestions are always welcome. Please send your email to: suggestions@sunnyside-cc.com



Board of Directors

Joe Sciarrone, President
Darren Harper, Vice President
Bart Carlson, Treasurer
Mark Creede, Secretary
Mark Anderson
Chuck Deatherage
Robin Rogers
Philip Romero
Steve Plescia
Mike Parr
Michael Der Manouel, Jr.
Past President

Administration

Jason Zeller, Clubhouse Manager
Steve Pellegrine, Head Golf Professional
Steve Menchinella, Director of Golf Emeritus/Membership



Steve Plescia
House Chair

Pro's Corner

Just a reminder that while we wait for the new greens to be ready for play, the course is open Tuesday through Sunday on the temporary greens. The ryegrass in the fairways and green surrounds came in beautifully. We will not be posting scores while on the temporary greens but we will, of course, post scores played at other Clubs.

Now might be a great time to get your clubs regripped and have the loft and lies checked. Did you know that due to making contact with the ground or driving range mats that the lie of your irons may flatten over time? Swing by the Pro Shop and we can check them for you.

Maybe you've been putting off getting some help with your game. One of our many golf professionals on staff are available for private lessons, so call the Pro Shop to hone in on your game for the upcoming season.

As the Holiday's approach us and the weather starts to cool down, what better time to restock your Sunnyside wardrobe or begin your holiday gift buying. The Pro Shop is well stocked with great apparel from Straight Down, Travis Matthew and FootJoy. Or maybe you should treat yourself to a new set of clubs. We have demos for TaylorMade, Titleist, Callaway and Ping. Come by or set up a fitting appointment to get your clubs dialed in!

After the holiday's settle down and our new greens are well grown in, join us for our Annual Frozen Monkey Tournament on January 11, 2020! More details to follow or call the Pro Shop to sign up.

See you at the club!!



Steve Pellegrine
Head Golf Professional



Linda's Corner

Tournaments Wind Down, New Officers Announced for Women Golfers

With barely two months left of 2019, the Sunnyside Women Golfers are preparing for a wrap-up of tournament play in the current year and a new roster of officers for the incoming, with Nancy Midcalf assuming a second term as Captain.

The Nominating Committee, headed by Kevyn Johnston, last month presented for membership approval the 2020 slate officers to govern activities commencing in January.



Linda Avent Estep

The newly elected officers are:

- Captain:** Nancy Midcalf
- Assistant Captain:** Holly Bare
- Tournament Chair:** Kevyn Johnston
- Assistant Tournament Chair:** Nancy Stephensen Buller
- Handicap Chair:** Penny Docker
- Secretary:** Judi Southcott
- Treasurer:** Lenny Silva
- Rules Chair:** Carol Chandler
- House Chair:** Kevyn Johnston

The Captain traditionally appoints additional chairs for board positions that include Amenities, Team Play Captains, Publicity, Club Lites column writer, Eclectic Chair, Hole-in-One Chair and Historian. Those appointments will be included in a future Club Lites issue.



Judi Southcott, Winner of the 2-Day Eclectic Tournament

UP AND COMING

The Nancy Dahlgren Tournament that was scheduled to be held November 7th, will be replaced in 2020 by a new tournament honoring Sunnyside's most celebrated female golfer, Shelley Hamlin, who died in 2018. Shelley dominated the golf news locally as a junior amateur golfer before turning professional and enjoying an illustrious career on the LPGA tour for many years. Her family has roots in Sunnyside history with her mother, Cathy Hamlin, winning multiple Club Champion titles from 1967 to 1977. Her brother, Kent, and his wife, Kathy, are active members of Sunnyside today.



On Thursday, November 21st, the Harvest Tournament will be held to wind down the year. Although, the Summer/Fall Eclectic Tournament final day is scheduled to be November 30th. In recent years, this tournament has been sponsored by John and Janine Emerzian with supermarket gift cards as prizes to help participants get a head start of Thanksgiving planning.

A final and informal 9-hole tournament will be held prior to the Annual Women Golfers Christmas Party on December 19th. Always a popular Sunnyside luncheon, prizes will be awarded and Eclectic winners announced. More information on the December luncheon will be announced by the Club.

Notes From the Clubhouse

As we enter the upcoming Holiday Season, there is no better place to be than your Club. There is something magical about the ambiance and décor throughout these months as friends and families visit and join us for special events. The laughter of children, the sound of glasses meeting-toasting any number of things to be grateful for. Please remember, we are here for you and happy to help with your entertaining needs. Fireplaces will be lit, reservation lines will be open and our team is here to serve.



Jason Zeller
Clubhouse Manager

Need the perfect gift? Share your love of golf, wine, and more with our members only "Holiday Shopping Event" on December 12th. Vendors will set up displays in the Banquet and Garden Rooms with an array of gift able items for you to purchase. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be available along with wine samples. The Clubhouse will be decorated and the Fireside Member Bar open with live music played on our new piano. This is one of the many great Holiday Happenings at Sunnyside.

By now, most everyone should have received an online survey inviting you to provide feedback on our Food and Beverage Program. If you have not, please stop by the office to receive a printed copy or email invite. The purpose of this survey is to better provide the amenities and services you are looking for. Your feedback will help shape our Member events calendar and daily offerings. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Our Sunnyside Team wishes you all a very safe, healthy, and happy holiday season!

ENTERTAINING TIP- Holiday Tablescapeing

Start with the ending...?!

If you find yourself entertaining this holiday season, a fun way to stay seated and enjoy your company, is to creatively display dessert before guests in your beautiful centerpiece. Cookies, cakes, pies, and bars are safe to stay out at room temperature and with a little creativity, easily disguised amongst fresh flowers, greenery, whole fruit, berries, nuts, and more. If you find yourself in need of elevation to add dimension and height, consider using a stack of small plates topped with dessert items; this also creates one less trip to the kitchen about when it comes time to enjoy. Complete your tablespace with candles as a dramatic way to incorporate light and create that perfect glow; also deter little hands from reaching too soon!

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Holiday Hours



November 27th
Clubhouse Closes at 3:00pm

November 28th *Happy Thanksgiving*
Clubhouse Closed
Course Closed by 4:00pm

December 24th
Clubhouse Closes at 3:00pm

December 25th *Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays*
Clubhouse, Pro Shop and Golf Course Closed

Upcoming Events

New Member Orientation
Wednesday, November 13 at 5:00pm

Touch of Bayou
Friday, November 22nd
Let's Travel to New Orleans as we enjoy the sounds of jazz and feast on creole favorites.
Adults \$35

Breakfast with Santa
Sunday, December 8th
Watch Santa fly in from the North Pole, get your holiday pictures taken and enjoy a fun morning of kids' crafts and delicious food.

Holiday Shopping Event
Thursday, December 12th
Need that Last Minute Gift? Come shop an array of local vendors while enjoying complimentary hors d'oeuvres and wine tastings.

Men's Holiday Luncheon
Wednesday, December 18th at 11:30am

Ladies' Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, December 19th at 11:30am

Frozen Monkey Golf Tournament
Saturday, January 11th
Call the Pro Shop for more details

Annual Crab Feed
Friday, January 24th
Adults \$64

Go to our Members Only page on our website
(www.Sunnyside-cc.com) for further information.

Call (559) 251-6011 to make reservations