



High Meadows “Hummer”

Roaring Gap, NC

March 2010

General Managers Notes

Dear Members of High Meadows Country Club,

The financial report ending the 2009 fiscal year here at High Meadows is overwhelmingly positive. The net operating cash balance for 2009 at the end of December is \$120,000. Please keep in mind that this figure may change after our annual audit is completed in March; nevertheless, we do not anticipate significant change.

Some of you may wonder how in these hard economic times that High Meadows was able to finish this far in the black when so many other clubs are struggling to break even—or even survive. The answer is not in our revenues. Total revenue for 2009 was actually down several thousand dollars compared to the previous year. The answer is in our expenses. In the following departments—golf course, golf shop, house and grounds, property and fleet, pool and tennis, and administrative—High Meadows was able to save significantly to the tune of \$118,000 compared to the previous year.

This was no easy feat, and congratulations are certainly in order to all of our diligent and conscientious Department Heads, and to our self sacrificing hourly employees. Should you as members choose to recognize these people for their efforts when you see them, your appreciation will be much appreciated.

Last year's capital improvements totaled \$117,500. These improvements were 20 new golf carts, an aerifier for the golf course, a cooler for the grill, and carpet for the clubhouse. As you can imagine, that fund is pretty well depleted going into the 2010 year. So the amount we managed to save in 2009 will certainly be needed to fund capital improvements in 2010.

As General Manager of your club, I have a great many responsibilities. But perhaps my greatest responsibility though rarely mentioned here at High Meadows Country Club is to protect *your* investment. My goal has always been, both now and in the future, to secure your investment by making this the best and the most attractive club that it can be.

This being said, let me also say that the best way for you to protect your best interest is to give your club all the support that you can give. Your participation, whether it is on the golf course, in the clubhouse dining room, attending special events, or booking special events, all contribute to make your club the best club it can be. The greatest contribution of all, of course, is to encourage someone you know to be a part of the community and to become a member here at HMCC. With April just around the bend, please think about who you know that might like to become a member of this fine community. If you do know someone who may be a serious candidate for membership, bring them to High Meadows. I promise we will treat them like royalty.

Thank you for your continued support of High Meadows Country Club. Let's pray for more sunshine and less snow.

Sincerely,
Joe Bunting, GM

Around the Meadow

Wow! We have had a winter to remember this year. Snow accumulations have reached the fifty-inch mark and the course has been covered with snow since December 18th. However, an ice storm totaling over a half an inch followed by winds reaching over fifty miles an hour, has caused the most damage. We lost several trees and the course is covered with broken tree limbs. Quite frankly, I have never seen this amount of damage in the eighteen years I have been in this business. It does seem very unlikely for us to accomplish hand raking the woods in all of the landing areas this coming year. This is very disappointing to me because I like to have the woods clean enough for members to find their golf balls and to have a clean enough lie to play a shot out.

Another concern I have is heavy disease pressure. I applied a preventive application of fungicide for Pink Snow Mold to the greens and tees on December 17th. This application only lasts for sixty days and to date we are at sixty-six days. Long-term snow and ice coverage creates an environment that is conducive to Grey Snow Mold but it is very rare in this area. We have never applied preventive fungicides for Pink Snow Mold on the fairways. In the past, the damage has been minimal and we seed the damaged areas as soon as possible to keep playing condition at a high level.

On a more positive note, the maintenance department has been very busy. We completed the new employee bathroom and it is very nice. We have participated in removing snow from the roads and the driveways, which has been a big job in itself. Andy Royal has had a very difficult winter. I believe he has worked every day for over a month. We also helped move the furniture and remove the carpet in the dining room, and then helped put everything back together. We are currently working on some painting projects in the grill. We washed and waxed all of our equipment and broke down and painted the John Deere tri-plex. It looks brand new. It is important to wax and paint our equipment to help prevent rust and metal fatigue. Ultimately this will help the equipment last longer and in the long-term, reduce capital expenditures. We also painted the ball washers, trash cans, bag stands for the practice tee and we refinished the wooden flagpoles for the course and the practice green.

As always, we hope everyone has had a great winter and we look forward to seeing everyone back this spring.

Alan Smith

What is Golf?

Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle, followed by a good bottle of beer.

New Golf Pro

As many of you know from a previous e-mail announcement, we are pleased that Josh Allen has accepted the position of head golf professional and will be starting work March 1. Josh is a native of Galax and attended Concord University in West Virginia where he played collegiate golf. He and his wife Charlee will be relocating from Winston Salem to Roaring Gap. They will live at Olde Beau.

His experience and credentials include the following:

- ◆ Olde Mill (Laurel Fork, Va.)- PGA Golf Professional in charge of daily golf operations and tournament and teaching programs. Also was the point person in charge of membership development and retention.
- ◆ Hidden Valley (Roanoke, Va.)- PGA First Assistant Golf Professional- In charge of all tournament operations that included 28 plus tournaments yearly. Also contributed directly to golf merchandise sales of 380,000 yearly.
- ◆ 2008 Middle Atlantic Section Assistant Golf Professional of the Year Finalist
- ◆ Scholarship recipient from the PGA of America for having the highest test scores in the Section for PGA Level 2 and 3 schools.
- ◆ Assistant Professional at two Top 100 (Piper Glen and Sawgrass) golf shops in the country award by GolfWeek
- ◆ 2009 PGA of America Presidents Council award winner for efforts in growing the game of golf.
- ◆ 2 time NCAA Division II All-Northeast Region team selection

Our Search Committee was impressed with Josh's experience and enthusiasm and we believe he is the right person for our membership. My thanks to the Committee members (Savany Demmink, Tommy Thompson, Joe Bunting, Clarence Haile) for their extensive time commitment during the search process.

Stop by the Pro Shop, introduce yourself to Josh and welcome him to High Meadows!

Ned McConnell,
Golf Committee Chairman

The Leprechaun

The name leprechaun may have derived from the Irish *leath bhrogan* (shoemaker), although its origins may lie in *luacharma'n* (Irish for pygmy). These apparently aged, diminutive men are frequently to be found in an intoxicated state, caused by home-brew poteen. However they never become so drunk that the hand which holds the hammer becomes unsteady and their shoemaker's work affected.



Around The Meadow



Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

It's almost time for the
1st Annual

"Golden Ladle" Chili Cook-off!

What: Showdown Among HMCC's Greatest Chili Makers

Where: HMCC Side Door Lounge

When: Sunday, March 14th at 12:30 pm

Home Chefs, this is your chance to shine! Bring us a pot of your best chili recipe and compete for the "Golden Ladle" Trophy!

Sign up by Friday, March 5th to be entered in a Chili cook-off.

We will have the tasting & awards to coincide with the ACC Tourney finals.

Come one, Come All!

Call the office to register your famous chili by 4 pm on March 5th!



Casual Fridays

Casual Friday has been quite popular with many of our members. We hope everyone will take the opportunity to experience this new relaxed dining atmosphere as we look forward to springtime weather and better travel conditions!

Remember, this is your opportunity to come in, bring the kids, relax and not have to dress up for a meal at the club. Country Club appropriate jeans are acceptable in the dining room on Friday night only. We also offer a children's menu and some small plate options on the Friday night menu which is available on our website for your convenience.

Please remember to call ahead for reservations. This will allow us to schedule staff accordingly and provide you with better service.

Grille Opening

Watch for the Grille to reopen the first weekend in April. The Grille will be open on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays until the 15th of April. After the 15th they will be open Wednesday thru Sunday until the end of April. Beginning May 1st, they will open 7 days a week. Please stop by the Grille to welcome back Nicole and Staff! They look forward to seeing you!

The Adventurers

Due to the large accumulation of snow, the Adventures had to cancel their February trip to Cater Pots.

The Cater Pots trip has been rescheduled for Saturday, March 20th. We will meet at 9:30 at the Club House and car pool. Robin and Daniel have new glazes and will demonstrate three hand building techniques for your clay creations. Bring finger food for a pot luck lunch. Robin has promised to have her famous chocolate chip cookies. The cost is \$30 and space is limited so call early!

Caroline Cowan 336-363-2913 or 336-725-087

Judy Ann Deal 336-363-6233 or 704-212-7481

Welcome New Members

John Nunn—Galax, VA—Non-Property Golf

Bill Graham—Roaring Gap—Dining Member

Jim Meyer—Charlotte—Dining Member

Snowy Weather

I would like to thank everyone for their patience during the past (few) snow storms and for those yet to come!



Thanks, Andy and the Road Crew

Thank You

To all High Meadows members and employees. My family and I want to thank you for your kindness & generosity. We are truly blessed to have you in our lives.

Thank you,
Shannon Gilbert and Family



March 2010

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1	2	3 Dining Room Open	4	5 Dining Room Open Casual Friday	6 Dining Room Open
7 Lounge Open Daylight Savings Time Spring Ahead	8	9	10 Dining Room Open	11	12 Dining Room Open Casual Friday	13 Dining Room Open
14 "Golden Ladle" Chili Cook-off 1:00 	15	16	17  St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Dining Room Open Casual Friday	20 Adventurers Cater Pots meet 9:30 Club House Board Meeting 3:00
21 Lounge Open Provisionally 1-7 during winter hours. Please call ahead.	22 Spring Aerification	23 Spring Aerification	24 Dining Room Open Spring Aerification	25	26 Dining Room Open Casual Friday	27 Dining Room Open
28 Lounge Open Provisionally 1-7 during winter hours. Please call ahead.	29 Rain date for Spring Aerification	30 Rain date for Spring Aerification	31 Rain date for Spring Aerification			

Coming in April 2010

- April 2—Grille opens for the Season
- April 4—Easter Brunch 11:30—1:30
- April 11—Augusta National Party
- April 23—CLVD Tournament

CONTACT US

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