



Mark Wasser



With less than three weeks until Spring arrives officially, VHCC is starting to prepare for the golf season. Jim, Joe, Tony, Michele and the rest of our crew will soon be working to prepare the facilities for our opening. With some luck, hopefully we can sneak in a round or two in early April.

As I mentioned in my brief remarks at the Mid-Winter Party, I am working with the board on some upgrades to the Club. We are diligently trying to find a reasonable solution to improve the tennis courts, are investigating some changes to both the men's and women's locker rooms and looking into ways to increase traffic in the grill room. I am hopeful we will see progress on all of these issues over the coming weeks.

As for our potential gas lease, at this point we are basically waiting for New York State to get their act together. Once they decide on the final regulations and start moving to issue permits, it is my understanding that our coalition will be presented with a very favorable lease. Until then everything is status quo. As always, I will update the membership as the situation warrants.

Yours in golf,

Mark Wasser



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 Mark Wasser

1st Vice President:
 Jim Blodgett

2nd Vice President:
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- * Jim Grace
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- * Rich Smith
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- * Jerry Bracken
- * Don Sommerville

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 Tony Saraceno

Assistant Professional's:
 John Van Riper
 Kevin Morgan

Office Manager:
 Michele Craig

Superintendent:
 Joe Champion

House Manager:
 Jim Tzivanis

Food & Beverage
 Sally Russell

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Tony Saraceno

Spring is around the corner, so we should start thinking GOLF!! Hopefully mother nature will be agreeable and give us a kind March and not a lion. I want to say how anxious I am to get the season up and running at VHCC. Our new golf and pro shop staff will be an asset to the Club.

I want to remind everyone that John, Kevin and I are here to help you and to answer all of your golf related questions at the Club. Golf season will open soon, so let us check your clubs to make sure they are ready for battle when the course is open for business. Grips usually should be changed annually; let one of us take a look at them and change them if necessary. It's good to have your golf shoes checked over, as well.

I will be in the pro shop soon. Be prepared! Don't hesitate to stop up for an equipment check.

I'll see you soon,

Tony





John Van Riper



I'm sure everyone is greatly anticipating the snow melting and the start of the 2010 season! Thank you to all who attended the mid-winter party and the warm welcome back. It was nice to see some familiar faces and a pleasure to meet new ones. I am looking forward to a productive and exciting year at VHCC.

The women's instructional clinic on Wednesday evenings will start on May 19th. I have instructed the womens clinic at the Links at Hiawatha Landing for the last 5 years, so don't be bashful! This will be a night of golf and instruction, along with a lot of FUN! Whatever level golfer you may be, from the beginner to the veteran, we will make a positive progression over the season while having a good time. So if you want to get better and enjoy doing it, please attend.

The Junior Camps will also be back for the 2010 season. Dates are being planned and we are hoping to have two 5 day camps at different times for your convenience. Watch for the dates and make sure to sign up early, as the camps will fill up fast.

Cheers,
John Van Riper


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From the House Committee:

It was great to see everyone at the Mid-Winter Party at the Binghamton Club, including John VanRiper and some new members...2010 is off to a great start!

I'd like to welcome Evie Wasson and Betsy Remza to our House Committee. Our committee will be meeting in the next ten days with Jim Tzivanis and Sally Russell to finalize the upcoming season's dining room menu, and Opening Party at VHCC. Mark your calendar for April 24th, so we can get together for some great food and music, and to welcome new members!

Although food and parties are one of the highlights of the Club, the House Committee will be working on many other projects this season. There will be some changes regarding the grill room usage, plus the addition of an outdoor patio and grilling area. The dining room paint is peeling, so we are going to give it a facelift with a fresh coat of paint. In addition, we will be working with Joe Champion and the Grounds Committee to beautify the outdoor space by adding more flowers and small shrubs.

Again, if anyone has any suggestions for the House Committee to consider, please email me at steph@adelements.net.

Cheers,

Stephanie Blodgett



Jim Blodgett



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We are now into March, and have weathered another long winter. New membership is looking very promising for 2010, with the support of the BOD's the membership committee has started an initiative to drive new members in the 35 and under category. There is a special promotion for this category, it is a very aggressive offer to build this demographic. If you know of a prospective member, please contact me directly.

To compliment this offer we have integrated a 15%, 10% & 5% discount over the next three years for **NEW MEMBERS** in the remaining categories (excluding corporate). Our committee has reached out to many groups, businesses and individuals with this promotion and has set up an informational meeting on March 3rd with 15-20 prospects.

Please visit our web site and facebook page to stay current with event and tournament information. The 2010 tournament schedule is posted on the web...

Regards,

Jim Blodgett
Membership Committee Chair

February Snow Storm!!



The storm on February 26th reminded us that it certainly is a different world up here at the Club. We received approximately 30 inches of snow with heavy drifting that obscured at least half of the front of the clubhouse, from the ground to the roof! We are in a holding pattern until it begins to melt...next week looks to be nicer at this time.

As a reminder, anyone with bluebird houses in their backyards should empty them now to encourage the birds to use your boxes. When the bluebirds return to nest shortly, they prefer to build a completely new nest. Keep boxes away from shrubbery, trees, or hedgerows in an open area "near" vegetation as well.

Joe Champion,
Golf Course Superintendent, VHCC.

