

THE CLUB

“1st Tee”

February 2009

2009 – A look ahead – Financial Outlook – Due to the current economic climate, even though we conservatively estimate our expenses to increase \$11,000 in 2009, we will not be raising regular dues or private cart fees.

To minimize this expense drain, we will focus on our restaurant where historically our annual losses have been in the \$12,000 range. While the quality of our offerings and service have been outstanding, our prices for many items have been 20 –25% lower than other restaurants in the area. The restaurant is a very critical part of the club and to address this area, we will rely on the advice of professionals in the field to bring our food and beverage prices at or near other Gouverneur restaurants. If during the season, you notice any of our prices out of line we will be glad to investigate and address them.

In addition we will continue to look at all other areas of our operation where we could cut expenses without jeopardizing our maintenance and improvement programs. Our goal is to provide maximum value for your dollar with a first class golfing venue and associated amenities.

New Director Elected– Frank Bush is a new director joining Ralph Brungard, Ray Fournier, Bob Garofalo, Nelson Lawrence, Bonnie Porter, Larry Rosbrook and Ted Totten. The officers remain the same with Janice Lutz – President; Dan Caruso – Vice President; Heather MacKinnon – Secretary and Jim Girard – Treasurer. The chair of each committee is the first name listed in the accompanying brochure. In addition, the brochure outlines all dues and fees for the coming year.

New Pro Shop/Restaurant Manager – After years of faithful service, Al Douglass has decided to concentrate more on enjoying retirement and improving his golf game – one doesn't necessarily guarantee the other. His extensive knowledge and expertise have certainly been a major part of the many successes we have enjoyed. The Board is in the process of looking for a replacement. If you know of anyone interested in the position, they can contact Janice Lutz or Dan Caruso or send their resume to GCC, PO Box 273, Gouverneur, NY 13642.

Lend Us Your Cart – Three or four times during the year, we are in need of additional carts for tournaments. In the past, many of our private cart owners have allowed us to use their carts for this purpose. After use we fill the tank and wash the cart. If you are interested in participating in this program, we will have a release form in the Pro Shop that you can sign.

Prompt Payment Perks– For those members paying their dues in full by May 1, 2009 you will have your choice of two free guest passes, a \$20 gift certificate redeemable in the Pro Shop or Restaurant, or a Driving Range Coupon (10 bags of balls). This Driving Range Coupon will also be available in the Pro Shop for \$20. **Please indicate your preference on your dues statement or we will assume you want the two free guest passes.**

Super Senior (80+) Discount – For any current or new member who has reached the young age of 80, your dues will be 50% of the regular dues. If we missed that on your dues statement, please call Dan (287-3997) or Heather (287-4241) and we will give you the correct amount.

Time Payment Plan - For those who wish to pay their **Membership Dues** over a three-month period, we offer the following time payment plan. Pay 50% of your dues by May 1st. Make a 25% payment with a \$5 service charge on June 1st and make your final 25% payment with a \$5 service charge by July 1st.

Introductory & Military Memberships – We are once again offering Introductory & Military Memberships for the 2009 season (**Family- \$395, Husband/Wife - \$370, Single \$295**). Currently 40% of our membership has come through this program. It is an excellent opportunity to introduce friends or neighbors to Gouverneur Country Club.

Unlimited Cart Usage – For the yearly fee of \$370 (Single) or \$445 (Family – one cart in use by family at one time) you can use one of the Club's carts anytime you play golf. It has proven a popular option with 22 users last year. We will continue to add to our fleet to accommodate additional users.

Starting Dates – Tuesday AM Women May 5th; Harrisville Men – May 5th; Wed. Women – May 13th; Thursday Men – April 30th; Friday night coed – May 29th. The leagues always have openings for golfers and or substitutes. Contact the Pro Shop at 287-2130 to sign up.

Interested in Golf and Looking for Part-Time Employment – We are always looking for adults who want to work a minimum of 20 hours a week in the Pro Shop. If interested contact Dan Caruso (287-3997).

Qualifying for 6 Person Teams – Saturday and Sunday - July 11/12 - The men and women will qualify on the same weekend. In addition to qualifying, there will be many other events taking place.

Golf Course Closed until 9AM on Mondays – This will allow our crew to apply insecticides and complete other maintenance requirements without interruption. In addition, the restaurant is closed all day with limited bar service available.

Discounts at 13 other courses – Your membership entitles you to a discount on greens fee/ cart at several courses. We encourage you to take advantage of these reciprocals where prices range from \$20 to \$35. The courses require that you call ahead for tee times and show your membership card when you sign in. The two course added in 2008 were LA Golf Club and Meadowbrook. Other participating courses are Carlowden, Highland Greens, Highland Meadows, Malone, Massena, Partridge Run, Potsdam, Prescott, St. Lawrence, Tupper Lake and Watertown. Check the back of your membership card for their telephone numbers.

Sustaining Memberships – Looking for a 20% discount on your dues? Join 52 others and become a sustaining member. Invest \$2,000 in a fully refundable certificate – may be paid in four one-year installments. You then become a voting member with an active voice in the direction of the club. You can be a part of it today. Contact Dan Caruso or Jim Girard for details on becoming a sustaining member.

The Web Site – www.gouverneurcountryclub.com. Shari Barnhart continues to work with us to make it a great source of information as well as outstanding advertisement. In addition to posting information at the clubhouse, the website will be updated on a regular basis.

Looking forward to good friends, good times and **GREAT** golf – **keep it in the short grass!**

The Board of Directors