



THE 1ST TEE NEWSLETTER

SPRING, 2008

2007 - It was a Banner Year!!! – the first true profitable year in a decade – due to support of the membership and the hosting of three major tournaments. With this profit we were able to purchase a new fairway mower that gives us more versatility when mowing and increases the life of our main tractor by reducing its normal use from 5 days to 2 days. We thought about naming the new mower “2007 profit”. The capability of the kitchen was also enhanced by the purchase of a new dishwasher and deep fryer.

Considerable progress was made as a result of donations of funds, materials and labor from many members. An anonymous donation of \$10,000 purchased the new utility vehicle and trailer. In addition, a donation of \$2,500 by Roger and Marilyn LaPierre was a shot in the arm for renovation of the downstairs men’s room. They also donated 10 maple trees that were placed around the course in the fall. The renovation of the upstairs men’s room was a result of the efforts of Mike Porter, Frank Cook and associates. Also the new carpeting downstairs was made possible by donations from various individuals and businesses. The drainage work done on #9 fairway was certainly an improvement and we hope to continue eliminating drainage problems on the rest of the course. Upgrades to #4 & 5 tees should be noticeable this spring.

The restaurant is a very critical part of the club and we expect to continue providing high quality food and great service. However, food prices need to be increased in order to approach a breakeven point. These increases would be moderate, but would make a considerable difference in the financial viability of the club. Our beverage prices seem adequate and shouldn’t require any wholesale increases. Your continued support of the restaurant can make the difference.

Our goal – continue to provide maximum value for your dollar and a venue for great golf, great food and great enjoyment.

New Director Elected– Larry (Rosey) Rosbrook is a new director joining Chuck Audet, Ralph Brungard, Ray Fournier, Bob Garofalo, Nelson Lawrence, Bonnie Porter, Jeff Stowell 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.

Prompt Payment Perks– For those members paying their dues in full by May 1, 2008 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.**

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 2008 season (**Family- \$375, Husband/Wife - \$350 Single \$275**). This is an excellent opportunity to introduce friends or neighbors to Gouverneur Country Club.

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.

Unlimited Cart Usage – For the yearly fee of \$445 (Family – one cart in use by family at one time) or \$370 (Single) you can use one of the Club's carts anytime you play golf. It has proven a popular option with 21 users last year. We will continue to add to our fleet to accommodate additional users.

Rental Carts – Over the past few years, we have added to our fleet to accommodate the increased play. In order to keep better track of the amount of activity, we will be implementing a **new sign in procedure** that will indicate the number of cart users on any given day, the number of riders and the number of holes played. This will provide us the information necessary to purchase additional carts and keep us in compliance with insurance requirements. There has been some abuse of the use of rental carts in the past such as paying for nine and playing extra holes or renting as a single and riding as a double. We feel these new controls will eliminate this costly abuse.

Discounts at 11 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 \$30. The courses require that you call ahead for tee times and show your membership card when you sign in. The 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.

Opening Party – Saturday May 10th – Connie and Janice invite you to join us and bring your friends to kick off the season. No admission fee but people are encouraged to bring their favorite hors d'oeuvre to share. The club will provide the DJ.

Work Day – Saturday May 10th – 8:30 – 12:30 – Many hands make light work! We have been able to complete a great number of projects on the course and in the clubhouse and had fun (?) doing it. Ray Fournier and Ralph Brungard will be handing out the projects. Lunch will be on us.

Starting Dates – Tuesday AM Women May 6th; Harrisville Men – May 6th; Wed. Women – May 14th; Thursday Men – May 1st; Friday night coed – May 30th; Junior Clinic TBA. The leagues always have openings for golfers and or substitutes. Contact the Pro Shop at 287-2130 to sign up.

Pro Shop – Our prices will meet or beat the competition. For your special needs we can arrange special orders with a wide range of manufacturers including Titleist and FootJoy. Our computerized handicap system is part of your membership and provides a handicap acceptable at other courses and tournaments.

Qualifying for 6 Person Teams – Saturday and Sunday - July 12/13 - The men and women will qualify on the same weekend. In addition to qualifying, there will be many other events taking place.

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
Gouverneur Country Club – February 2008