



# Monroe Country Club Newsletter

May, 2007



## Message from the President:



Our golf course officially opened on Thursday, April 5th, but cold weather and substantial rain has prevented many of us from getting out and enjoying the course. The grounds crew is "picking up" after the storm and getting the course in great playing condition.

Since our Annual Meeting, in November, the Board of Governors has held two Special Member's Meetings on February 24th and March 24th and received "A" Member approval to begin a Club Improvement Program. First, in 2007, beginning in the fall, the golf course will have major renovations of current sand traps and creation of new ones to compliment the new golf tee upgrades done at the end of last season. Then, in 2008, we plan to build a new combination building which will house our pro shop, men's and women's locker rooms, a member's lounge and golf cart storage. Both phases of this plan require that we add twenty new Special A-2 members in each of the next two years. We need all of our members support in helping to reach this goal!

Twenty-five refurbished golf carts are being delivered this week along with two utility carts to service the course. In addition, our new John Deere utility tractor, with a front loader and small back hoe, recently arrived and has been put to good use clearing the stream and repairing the ground near the bridges damaged over the winter.

On Saturday, April 28th, from 5-6:30 pm, we are having our opening season Member's Social, with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, which will provide the opportunity to meet new 2007 members. On Sunday, April 29th, we will have our season opening ABCD Tournament at a cost of \$25, which includes the Saturday Social, continental breakfast, golf tournament, lunch and prizes. We hope that all members will come out and support this season opening event!

It is my privilege to serve as club president in 2007 and I always welcome your ideas and suggestions to improve the club for members, their families, guests and the public.

**Fairways and Greens!**  
**Lou Ciota**

## Pro Shop:



We'd like to congratulate Rob Bennett on his new role as Pro Shop Manager. This is Rob's 3<sup>rd</sup> year in MCC's Pro Shop and we know he'll continue to be an asset to our club. Rob has already "taken the bull by the horns" by requesting and following up on improving the pro shop's interior.

Rob and his "assistants" have painted, spackled, repaired the building interior and laid down new carpeting. Rob has also been instrumental in obtaining additional pro shop merchandise for sale to members and the public. Please look to our pro shop for your golfing equipment and attire needs.

Rob is also our golf professional and is available to provide golf lessons for an additional fee. Please ask Rob for details.

In addition to thanking Rob for his efforts, we'd also like to give **special thanks** to the other members and friends for helping in the restoration of our pro shop. They are (in no specific order):

**Mark Petersen:** Donation of paint and supplies and clip boards as well as painting, planning and supervision.

**Pete Reilly:** Electrical work and spackling.

**Randy Vite:** Cutting out a hole for an Air Conditioner.

**Bill Baxter:** Painting and carpet installation.

**Scott McWatters:** Painting and carpet installation.

**The Douthit Family:** Donation of a table and chairs.

**Anonymous Member:** Donating the new light fixtures and refurbishing the display case. Rumor has it for building a display table and credenza as well.

Don't forget, when you see them, to thank Rob and company, in person, for transforming our pro shop into an area we can be proud of.

## Doug's Digs: by Doug Belmont, Course Superintendent



The course is open for the 2007 season. The grounds have been cleared of debris and the greens are in good shape, for this time of the year. The bunkers have been prepared and rakes have been provided.

Tree removal will begin, soon, on hole #5 to remove a few willow trees.

Our new Front Loader / Backhoe has arrived and we will be using it to maintain the course and make improvements.

Aeration of the greens is scheduled on or around 5/2/07.

**The condition of our course is good.**



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## New Membership Drive:

In order to be financially able to make the improvements to our club, both course renovation plans and plans for a new clubhouse and pro shop building, we need to add 20 new "A" and "A-2" memberships each year for the next 2 years. To accomplish this we need the help of every member in getting the "word out" about our new discounted memberships.

Currently we have ads running in the Middletown Times Herald Record and The Photo News as well as on the internet. You can see some of the ad copy by going to the following link on the internet: <http://thnewmedia.com/golfpromo/golfindex.html>

Also available, in our pro shop, are brochures that you can hand out at gatherings, post on bulletin boards at your gym, supermarket or at other locations you feel are appropriate. You can also print a one page handout brochure or a full membership package at the MCC website on the "Members Only" page.

Time is running out. Our window of opportunity for new memberships narrow drastically after the month of May. So, please, do all you can to make this new membership drive a success. We're depending on you. Thanks.

## 50 / 50 Raffle:

Congratulations to **Pete Reilly** for winning the grand prize in our 50/50 raffle this past February. Congratulations as well to our second place winner **Ms. Lynne Deats**. The four third prize winners were Mark Petersen's children, Billy Codington, Gerry McAulliffe, and Dan Politowski. We're all waiting in the bar for our drinks....Just kidding....Sort of.

## Information for Our Members:

\* **Monthly raffle;** will begin at the end of April and run through November and billed at \$20 per month ("A", "A-1", "A-2", and "F" Members only).

\* **MGA handicap fee;** of \$25 for all members

(Members may opt out of one or both of the above by informing the club in writing prior to the first billing in May)

\* **\$50 raffle;** will be assessed to all "A" and "A-1" members in October 2007 prior to the Annual Meeting in November (Grand Prize is a free 2008 Membership)

## An Actual Phone Call:



**MCC Pro-Shop:** "Hello, Pro Shop".

**Caller:** "Hi, I'm calling about a membership to your club"

**MCC Pro Shop:** "Terrific! As a matter of fact, in 2007, we have a great rate for new individual memberships. For the first year it's just \$800, plus, a \$300 initiation bond".

**Caller:** "Wow!...That is a great rate! Do you guys have a driving range?"

**MCC Pro Shop:** "We don't have a driving range but we do have a net, so that you can hit balls and warm up."

**Caller:** "Well that really is a great rate... Heyyyy... Wait a minute... This is Mansion Ridge, right?"

**MCC Pro Shop:** "No, this is Monroe Country Club."

**Caller:** "Click!"

## 2007 Player of the Year Standings:

Tournament Chairman Peter Cassidy will be finalizing the point values that members can earn for 2007 P.O.Y. Points will be posted in the Pro Shop and in our next newsletter. John Dix is the current **2006 MCC POY**, which validates the theory that if you play well (or consistently have good partners) anyone can attain the title of Player of the Year!

## Members Tournaments:

We hope there will be an increased participation to the member's tournaments. Please check the Pro Shop or the Web Site for a complete listing. Any questions regarding Members Tournaments or Player of the Year standings, please speak with Mr. Cassidy.

## Upcoming Events:

- April 28<sup>th</sup>, 5-6:30 PM: Member's Social.
- April 29<sup>th</sup>, A,B,C,D Tournament
- May 20<sup>th</sup>, MGA Met/Net Tournament
- May 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, President's Cup Tournament
- June 9<sup>th</sup>, Member/Guest Scramble Tournament

**Sign up in the pro shop for these events.**

A 2007 Tournament schedule can be found posted in the pro shop or on the "Members Only" page of our website at [www.monroecountryclubny.com](http://www.monroecountryclubny.com)

User Name = mccmember

Password = mccrules

**Email questions to: [info@monroecountryclubny.com](mailto:info@monroecountryclubny.com)**