

UNITED STATES GOLFING



FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS

Fall/Winter

USGFR Newsletter 2010

The 2010 Fall/Winter issue of the USGFR Newsletter is available this year on our web site along with many other interesting tidbit, photos and other information relating to our latest golfing venue and future golfing venues. Go to www.usgfr.com



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EDITOR COMMENTS

Please read and enjoy the information provided in this Newsletter.

If you have suggestions on making this Newsletter better please e-mail me at Nate202@aol.com

Nate Naden, Editor

President's Message



Pac

For the past 6 years, I have had the honor and privilege of serving as President of the USGFR. Although our organization has continued to maintain a level of membership that has allowed for some great venues, there is still an opportunity, as well as a challenge, for broad improvement. The lifeline, reliable growth and future success of any organization lies in the process of acquiring new members. The USGFR is no exception. A Rotary friend did each of us a "favor" by asking us to become a member of the Fellowship of Golfing Rotarians. Each of our next three venue destinations promise an outstanding opportunity for each of us to respond in kind and to "PAY it FORWARD" by asking three Rotarian friends to become members.

My special thanks go to all past and current board members for their dedication and service to the USGFR.



Mike Laughlin

"Salute" to John Watson, wife Barbara, the entire Watson family, and the Minden Area Rotary Clubs for hosting an outstanding USGFR Golf Tournament for 2010. The Nevada Region at Lake Tahoe provided us with perfect weather in the mid-70s and quality golf courses.

Congratulations to Low Gross Winner Howard Edminston and Low Net Champion Richard Ahart for their quality play in a field of 60 Rotarian golfers. We even included an all Woman's flight for the first time in USGFR competition. We all enjoyed the final awards banquet with unique prizes made by a local wood artisan. Rotary Fellowship was the focus of all our daily activities.

A major decision was made by the Board of Directors during our annual recap meeting following the final round. The Board voted by a unanimous 9 to 1 vote in favor of changing the name of our organization from the United States Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians (USGFR) to the North American Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians (NAGFR).

It was also agreed that this change will not occur until after next year's tournament in Nashville. This change has created some controversy, primarily from past board members, but was supported by a large majority of the current board who felt: 1. North American Fellowship would be more consistent with the multi-national membership including the U.S. and Canada. 2. The new name would be consistent with the International character of Rotary. 3. The new name may open the door to more international participation in our tournament activities.

We are reminded that in spite of our differences of opinion the most important mission of our organization is "ROTARY FELLOWSHIP."

Set the dates aside now for Nashville on May 14-18, 2011. Jim Getchonis, Director for the Central Region promises comfortable weather, great golf courses and "World Famous Southern Hospitality in Nashville. Not to mention the area is steeped with early American historical sites and even some good old "Country Music." Make your plans now for a great venue and Rotary Fellowship at its best.



Greetings from our Executive Secretary,



MILLIE MACKENZIE

Hello all USGFR members and friends!

Another Excellent Venue

The 21st annual USGFR tournament is history and will go down as one of the best ever thanks to the unbelievably hard work and detailed organization by Jack and Barb Watson. They left no stone unturned and it showed. How they arranged for such gorgeous clear blue skies and mild temperatures we'll never know. Job well done, and thanks again.

First-Timers

There were 11 first-time attendees at the Tahoe tournament. Thanks for coming and we hope we've hooked you into never wanting to miss another one. Many of you were winners so what's not to enjoy about that?

Thanks Pac!

Not only did Bob Pachazina lead our fellowship for a 3-year term (2005-2007), but he took on another 3 years (2008-2010). All members heard from him via e-mail urging tournament participation; just one example of how he cares strongly about USGFR. His enthusiasm is contagious. Thanks, Pac. You've set an excellent example of service above self! And Flo, you've been and are one classy First Lady. Thanks to you both.

Regional Directors

Hats off to Howard Edmiston. Two terms on the Executive Committee as Gulf Region Director and then he stayed on for one more year. Yet another service above self moment. Thanks, Howard, for your ongoing dedication to USGFR.

Executive Committee Appointments:

Pacific Region Director: Jim Pescatore (2010-2011)
Lakes Region Director: Nate Naden (2010-2011)
Gulf Region Director: Bill Durmer (2010-2012)
East Region Director: Pat Clarke (2011-2013)
Southwest Region Director: Jack Watson (2011-2013)

Mike Laughlin took office as the new USGFR President for a 3-year term and immediately set goals to move the membership to new high levels and to upgrade and improve the fellowship web site and communication frequency.

The new web site will be launched soon and will provide for web based membership directory, membership forms, annual billings, tournament registrations, among other features. IT IS VITAL THAT WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT E-MAIL AND THAT YOU NOTIFY US IF YOU CHANGE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS. Contact Millie MacKenzie at macknz@chamberscable.com with e-mail information.

R.I. Convention

Are you going to the Rotary International convention in New Orleans? It follows the Nashville tournament by three days. If you are going and would be willing to assist me in staffing a booth in the Hall of Friendship to promote golfing fellowships, contact me as soon as possible. Shifts would be 3-4 hours if enough volunteers step forward. It's a great way to meet Rotarian golfers from around the world.

Music City U.S.A. Look out, here we come! The 2011 tournament in Nashville is poised to become our best ever. Don't miss out on a super location . . . fun on and off the golf courses. I'll see you there!

Millie MacKenzie

USGFR would like to acknowledge the Rotarian who has traveled the farthest all the way from Bermuda; welcome to Gilda Furbert, we hope you enjoyed Lake Tahoe and will consider Nashville in 2011.

Handicap Committee

Please e-mail your GHIN number and index to Jim Brock as soon as possible. If you aren't on the GHIN system, tell Jim what agency issues your handicap.

Jim's e-mail: expressdocs@earthlink.net



Lake Tahoe, September 21-24, 2010

One of the most gorgeous places on the earth. I feel sorry for those Rotarians who missed this great venue. Jack and Barbara Watson made it happen. This was an outstanding venue, one of the best for sure. Barbara managed to provide the best weather one could ask for, not a cloud could be found for three days, temps. averaged in the 70s. Jack set up three of the finest golf courses beginning with Genoa Lakes, followed by Genoa Resort course and finishing it off with the best of the bunch, Edgewood golf course. Edgewood, along the shores of Lake Tahoe, was beautiful with gorgeous views the whole 18 holes. WOW and WOW again. Our accommodations were the Embassy Suites, first class and close to most activities.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the hard work Glenn Watson, Jack and Barb's son and Glenn's wife Kim put in. Also Jack and Barb's daughter Lynn for all her hard work with Barb in making the tours interesting. On behalf of all golfers and non golfers, Thanks to Glenn, Kim and Lynn for all your efforts to make our stay fun and relaxing.

As most of us know these venues wouldn't be successful without additional help from local Rotary clubs. This year the Minden Rotary club, Tim Ghan President (also a participant), the Tahoe Douglas Rotary club, Conrad Buedel, and the South Lake Tahoe Rotary club, Roger Pratt President gave Jack and Barb all the necessary assistance they needed. Rotary at its finest.

Nate Naden, Editor



GOLFING AWARDS:

2010 U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPION

Howard Edmiston

CHAMPION LOW NET STABLEFORD

Richard Ahart

Division 1 Winners

1st – John Minor
2nd – Tom McKinney
3rd – Jim Pescatore

Division 2 Winners

1st – Peter Young
2nd – John StClair
3rd – Bill Durmer

Division 3 Winners

1st – Richard Graves
2nd – Bill Bowersock
3rd – Leo Lauzon

Division 4 Winners

1st – V. Kay Smith
2nd – Jenny Minor
3rd – Elaine Durmer

Division 2 Day Winners

1st – Marilyn Watson
2nd – Mary Ann Norris

Partner Winners

1st – Richard Graves
Peter Young
2nd – Pat Clarke
Geary Engles

Closest to Pin (all three days)

Jim Pescatore
Greg Young
John Minor
Pat Clarke
Peter Young
Denny Horvak
Bill Bowersock
Gary Hernandez
Marilyn Watson (2)
Jenny Minor.



2010 VENUE REPORT

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS AT THE 2010 VENUE

- 1) Gilda Furbert from Bermuda
- 2) Pac relinquished his president gavel to Mike Laughlin
- 3) A first, a Rotarian had a (FIVE) putt green, ugly
- 4) Four Canadians and their wives attended: Peter Young, Mark and Margaret Dawder, Jim and Nancy Sissons and, of course, the ever loving, always faithful Leo and Bea Lauzon.

LAKE TAHOE AT A GLANCE

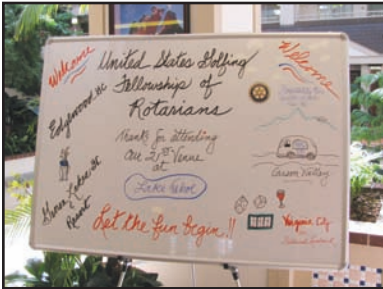
Monday September 20, 2010

Executive committee met at 1:00 PM followed by Director's dinner at 7:00 PM with a wonderful buffet.

Tuesday, September 21, 2010

Registration at the Embassy Suites with a practice round for those who signed up for golf at one of the three courses available.

5:00 PM our opening ceremony was held in the Embassy lobby with the 5190 District Governor Steve Lewis attending, along with the local Rotary clubs



involved. We then broke into two groups the golfers to the players meeting, and the non golfers to their meeting. At 7:00 PM we were treated to a welcome reception for all attendees.

Wednesday September 22, 2010

7:45 golfers were bussed to Genoa Lakes golf course for the first day of golf. What a beautiful trip to the course with spectacular views. Tee time was 9:00 AM. All golfers were treated to a nice box lunch. Fellowship after golf in the club house lounge was fun for all.

9:15 The bus departed for Virginia City tour. It was a bright sunny morning as we rode the bus along the Pony Express Trail into Genoa, NV, said to be the first settled town in Nevada. We stopped in town to watch many volunteers wrapping their homemade candies to sell at the Candy Dance that weekend. 96 years ago the Candy Dance started with only candy and a dance. Over the years it has grown to over 300 exhibitors, and thousands of people from all over the country come to enjoy it all.



As we drove to Virginia City, an old mining town, we noticed many new gold mines popping up all over the hills. We walked through town visiting many shops, learning some of the history, checking out the old saloons and characters of the old West and also had a taste of homemade and delicious Tahoe Creamery ice cream. On to the bus for some wine and snacks and then down through Carson City where we drove by the Governor's Mansion, which was wonderfully decorated for Carson City's favorite holiday HALLOWEEN. This is done every year so that all the children can trick or treat there in safety.

6:00 PM We were hosted by the Tahoe Douglas Rotary Club for a great BBQ on the beach of Lake Tahoe. The fellowship that followed was 'Rotary fellowship at its finest'. The golfing girls had their Poker tournament at one of the tables, they were loud and funny to watch.

Thursday September 23, 2010

7:45 Bus left for 2nd round of golf at the Genoa Resort golf course. Lunch again was supplied via a box lunch, again the lunch was very good. Fellowship followed watching the golf scores being posted, in the bar.



9:15 The bus departed for the tour around Lake Tahoe. We were off on another bright and sunny morning to drive around Lake Tahoe, which is 27 miles long and 12 miles wide and is called The Most Beautiful Drive in America. It is so blue and clear that you are able to see a white dinner plate 22 feet down in the water. We stopped along the way for picture taking and then on to a small town called Tahoe City for some mini shopping. We continued on to Gar Woods on the lake for a relaxing lunch and scenic view. I believe the best part of the trip was the tour of Thunderbird Lodge on Lake Tahoe on the way back to the hotel. It was fascinating and if you wish to learn more about it please go to web site www.thunderbirdlodge.org for the history.

The evening was free to do as you choose, as Jack put it "Do whatever Rocks your Boat."

Friday September 24, 2010

8:30 AM shotgun for final golf day at the Edgewood Course. And, as usual, all golfers hung around at the lounge to check out their final scores and discuss what went wrong and what went right.

9:30AM The bus departed for the Carson City tour "Down in the Valley." As we pulled into the back of the oldest casino in Gardnerville/Minden, the dust flew about us and as we stepped off the bus one of the gals looked around the messy parking lot and said "Is this the Town?" I am sure quite disappointed at what she saw. I said "Just step around the corner and see what the town is all excited about THE NEW AUTO PUSH BUTTON CROSSING LIGHTS." I think I heard a little chuckle!! RT395 South is our Main Street and we have always taken our lives in our hands trying to cross. The bypass will reach us someday and we will have a walk through town where businesses shall thrive again. Beautiful farm land and ranches surround us and we hope to keep it that way. The bus then took us to a side street where we visited a gallery and antique shop. As I walked back to the bus it was a pleasure to see some of the gals sitting in the lovely park where Minden Rotary built our Gazebo for music concerts and fun times. We then went on to the Tahoe Winery building where we tasted wines and had a nice luncheon. I think the gals got a taste of how we valley critters live away from the big city.

I wish to thank all the gals for my lovely gift and flowers which were such a thoughtful surprise. The notes on the card brought tears and will stay in my heart forever.

Barb Watson

7:00 PM began our final night and our banquet. We enjoyed a wonderful meal and Rotary fellowship including presentation of all awards.

The award trophies were designed by a local friend of the Watsons, hand made wooden bowls absolutely beautiful. W. Fred Reynolds for next year's venue from Nashville gave us a summary of what will happen in 2011, sounds like another venue not to miss. Mike Laughlin was officially introduced as the next USGFR president. The final award presented was to Pac for his tenure as USGFR's president. We all appreciated his hard work and dedication to USGFR. Pac was presented a beautiful watch as a remembrance. We finally made him speechless. By the way he could not have done the good job he did if Flo had not always prodded him on. Thanks Flo, we love you. Barbara Watson was presented with roses and then Jack and Barb received a standing ovation. Jack had a few ending remarks, the 2010 Lake Tahoe venue then concluded. This was a tough place to leave, it's remarkable what God had designed for us to enjoy.



FRESHMAN CLASS 2010:

Freshman Class 2010: There were 11 first timers this year, what a great turnout, they are as follows:

Richard Ahart
Bill and Lynne Bowersock
Gary and Denise Engles
Gilda Furbert
Tim and Beverly Ghan
Rich Graves
Gary Hernandez
Denny Horack
Bob Norris and Mary Ann
David and Susan Parsons
Tom and Sharon Van Dykie

As first-timers we were a bit nervous about traveling all the way from Massachusetts to Reno/Tahoe without knowing anyone except the Watsons. What a delightful surprise it was to find everyone so friendly and welcoming. Having the practice rounds was a great introduction for us and within the competitions we met great and lasting new friends. Particularly Jack and Barbara made the whole experience much more than golf. They and the rest of you Nevada organizers deserve cudos for the great job you did.

We were very touched by the heartfelt program at the end with the honoring of Pac and with all the sometimes tearful goodbyes.

We'll look forward to seeing all of you in Nashville!

Bob Norris and Mary Ann

The thing I enjoyed the most was the great people I met each day. I thoroughly enjoyed each person whom I played golf.

Tom and Sharon Van Dykie

The USGRF group knows the real meaning of fellowship

This was my first trip and I was hesitant because of golf in general. I was informed that Fellowship, Fun, and Golf were what the group stood for. The tone was set, and fun we had. There were no strangers in this group. Jack Watson and crew put on a perfect event. Thanks to Nate and my new favorite judge, Gary, I couldn't believe that I haven't joined this fun group before. Nashville is next!

Thank you to all my new Rotary friends

Gary Hernandez

Susan and I thoroughly enjoyed the event. The golf tournament venues were excellent. Susan found the excursions interesting - particularly the Thunderbird Lodge. We will be coming to future events.

David and Susan Parsons

What a great group, a great venue and I appreciate the work that went into the planning and execution of the event. The hospitality extended by the USGFR and the local Rotary Clubs was exceptional. I plan to participate as often as possible in the future.

Best personal regards,

Denny Horack

FUTURE USGFR VENUES

2011 Nashville Tennessee 22nd Annual USGFR Tournament May 14-18, 2011

Golf with Rotarians before the R.I. convention in New Orleans!

The Golf: The tournament is played over 3 days (54 holes); a 2-day division with a break for touring is an option. Golfers are placed in divisions determined by handicap and gender. Stableford scoring is used, except for the lowest handicap players in Division I who compete on gross scores for the national championship.

Courses: Legends at Vanderbilt - Tucked between rolling hills and breathtaking panoramas, designed by Tom Kite and Bob Cupp and opened in 1992. www.legendclub.com

Westhaven Country Club - Located west of historic Franklin, Tennessee, a private championship golf club with no homes on the course. Arthur Hills. www.golfwesthaven.com

The Schedule:

Friday, May 13	Practice round at Forrest Crossing (optional)
Saturday, May 14	Registration
Sunday, May 15	Practice round and flag raising
Monday, May 16	Golf Westhaven or Tour
Tuesday, May 17	Golf Legends or Tour
Wednesday, May 18	Golf Legends or Tour
	Closing Banquet

Accommodations: Embassy Suites Nashville-South/Cool Springs \$149 per day plus tax. Includes breakfast and daily complimentary cocktail hour. Rates also valid for USGFR for 3 days before and after the venue. Call (615) 515-5151

For the Non-Golfer:

Hermitage and Belle Meade Plantation Tour - \$70
Civil War Sites Tour - \$70
Country Music Tour - \$70
Jack Daniels Tour - \$80

How to Get There: Nashville International Airport is served by American, Continental, Delta, Frontier, Northwest, Midwest Express, Southwest, United Express, and U.S. Airways. We've arranged airport transfers at a special Rotarian rate.

Registration: DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15, 2011.
3-day golfer \$785; 2-day golfer \$660; non-golfer \$295. Practice round and bus tours are extra.

For more information contact Jim Getchonis at (423) 884-2180 or jgetchonis@tds.net

