

Letter from the President

Dear Members,

January 13, 2012

The Board of Governors is working on a large communication package to be mailed to the membership very soon, almost certainly next week. Our original goal was to have it in your hands today but with the volume of items that had to be pulled together properly we are behind a few days as originally scheduled. The package is currently in the hands of Creative Golf Marketing being processed for distribution as a part of their services to the Club. Please do not mistake the delay in getting this package out as a lack of effort but rather the result of doing due diligence on a big project that has required many, many steps.

In fact, as you may have heard, the Board of Governors unanimously voted at the December board meeting to change the mode of operation of how we provide food and beverage to the membership. This was no easy decision and has been thought through very carefully. The timing of the decision, the timing of notifying our existing staff, the timing of notifying the successful candidate and then working out the contractual agreement took just that – time. We are certain this decision is in the best interest of the membership and a key factor in the revitalization plan of the Owasco Country Club.

In the package you will receive next week will be:

- The Long Range Planning Committee report presented to the Board of Governors regarding “outsourcing” the food and beverage operation at Owasco Country Club (10/26/11)
- A communication from the Board of Governors to the membership regarding the findings of the Owasco Country Club Outsource Committee and decisions of the Board of Governors
- A letter from our new Food and Beverage partner
- A communication regarding engaging Creative Club Marketing
- A 2012 dues schedule

These documents will walk you through the entire decision making process used to make the decision to partner with a qualified restaurateur and catering company to manage our food and beverage operation at the Club. I can assure you a very well thought out contract and letter of understanding exists between the Club and our new partner that leaves no doubt that first and foremost we exist to serve our membership. The Board fully expects the members to find a better dining experience this season while reducing a portion of our dues that has gone toward subsidizing the restaurant operation.

In fact, as you may have heard, our new F&B manager and partner is Balloons Restaurant and Catering owned by Bernie Simmons. I assure you that Bernie is singularly focused on member satisfaction and is very much looking forward to running a top notch operation. In his words “our goal is to provide a food and beverage experience to the members such that a spending minimum is not required”. Bernie will bring a much higher level of day-to-day and event management to our operation that we have been lacking. The BOG would ask that you welcome Bernie and his staff and that we all work together to make this new business model a success.

Regarding member retention and attracting new members the Club has engaged a very well-known firm in the golf industry – Creative Golf Marketing of Manhattan, KS. To date CGM has been very active and

extremely helpful in setting dues categories, dues amounts, initiation fees and spending minimums for 2012. A full description of this will be in the mailing you should receive next week. We look forward to working with them in 2012.

The first order of business at the January meeting of the Board of Governors was election of officers and the second order of business was assignment of committee chair positions. Following please find the 2012 officers and chairpersons at OCC.

Officers:

President – Dave Dickman

Vice President – Kathy McLane

Secretary – Mary Ellen Buhl

Treasurer – Hugh Murphy

Chairpersons:

House – Dan Cuddy

Men's Golf – Larry Ellis

Ladies Golf – Mary Ellen Buhl

Membership – Kevin Gleason

Social/Tennis – Sue Bench

Green – Joe DiMora

Long Range Planning – Dave Dickman

The goal in 2012 is to have very active and vibrant committees. If you have a particular interest in serving on a specific committee please make yourself known to the committee chairperson.

We have come a very, very long way to putting OCC back on its feet. There is still much work to be done but I believe we can see the light at the end of the tunnel – and it is no longer a train. Please bear with us as we do the work of the Club in a diligent and responsible manner.

Look for a lot more reading in your mailbox soon.

Best regards,

Dave Dickman, On behalf of the Board of Governors