

MESSAGES from MAX

February 26th marked the completion of the full first year of operation under the new local ownership for Castlewoods Country Club. And what a year it has been! We are very grateful that each of you are members of this club and appreciate your continued support. Our membership still needs to grow a little, so any help that you might give us in this area, would surely be treasured. Personally, I am very fortunate to be a part of such a positive situation. Great members, great staff, great course, great pool and tennis, and great owners.....it doesn't get much better than this!

The Mississippi Golf Association is honoring us twice this year by allowing us to host two State Championships. First, during the weekend of April 8th -10th we will host the MGA's Mid-Amateur Championship. This is the state amateur championship for everyone 25 years of age or older. We expect around 100 players and will be able to work our members in after play daily. I anticipate several of our members to make a run for the title and predict that we have at least five of the top 15. Entry blanks are available in the golf shop. Then on June 17th -19th we will be one of the rotation courses in the MGA's State Father-Son Championship. Again, we will be able to work our members in after play and I do expect several of our members and their sons to make a run at this title too. While on the subject of state championships, we are scheduled to be

the host site for the 2006 Women's State Amateur Championship and the 2008 Men's State Amateur Championship.

From the 'you asked for it, you got it department', Castlewoods will be hosting the First Annual **Castlewoods Men's Member/Guest Golf Tournament on April 30th and May 1st**. Entry fee will be \$300 per team (\$250 if you are a Castlewoods trail fee member and your guest rides in your cart) and will include a party on Saturday night. The weather will be great and the course will be in excellent condition, so take this opportunity to show a friend or business client why Castlewoods Country Club is being asked to host so many state wide championships. Entry blanks are available in the golf shop or by email through me at fmaxwell@castlewoodscountryclub.com.

The Castlewoods Ladies Golf Association (CLGA) will begin their year with a Spring Kick-off on Saturday March 5th. The CLGA will also host a nine-hole playday on March 12th for ladies who are just beginning to play. Beginner ladies are encouraged to play every second Saturday of each month. The nine-holers will begin play at 11:30 on the 'Moose' Nine and meet up after play with the eighteen-holers. So if you are female and want to take up the game, there will now be a group of lady golfers just like you, to play and socialize with. Plus this little bonus: our teaching pro, Jay Jordan has agreed to offer a mini-clinic around 11:15, just for these ladies as they warm up! Just call the golf shop and sign up for the second 'nine-hole playday' on March 12th. More information about the CLGA can be obtained by emailing Roni Trout at Mstrouts4@aol.com.

And a special thanks to Mrs. Trout for her very hard work for Castlewoods CC and the CLGA. ☺

Last but by far not least, The Castlewoods Men's Golf Association (CMGA) has been working really hard organizing and scheduling an inexpensive but fun tournament schedule for 2005. The second CMGA event of the year will be 'March Madness' and held on Saturday, April 2nd. The format will be a two-man shamble and will cost \$30/CMGA member player and \$50/CMGA non-member player plus cart fees. There will be a gross and net division and handicaps will be determined by one half of team total. So get your team together today and enter by calling the golf shop at 992-1942. A extraordinary thanks goes out to Ken Peacock, Duke Simmons, John Oxley and Michael Slack for their smashing work on scheduling a fun and inexpensive tournament schedule. Also a very exceptional thanks to Nick Cappony for his continued help with building and supporting the CMGA.

Be sure to read Mr. Muse's letter on page two. Now let's play some golf and tennis!

Happy St. Paddy's Day!

Max Maxwell



LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP:

On February 26, 2004 Castlewoods' ownership changed hands while turning to a private club status. With the new year already here, I just wanted to take a few minutes and express the ownership's gratitude to the many who over the past year have made possible the numerous improvements to your club. As I review what has taken place over the past year, it is almost impossible to list the many members and associates of Castlewoods Country Club that have contributed to our ongoing effort to make CCC the number one club in the state. I do however want to express a special thanks to several and hope I don't leave out many who have gone beyond the norm to help with the transition. A special thanks goes out to **Melvin Jones** who donated the Cover Shot canopy for the driving range, **Robert Donald** who is building a new walking bridge for number one, **Sam Fryant** and the **Castlewoods Homeowner's Association** for their continued support and work in the neighborhood, **BankPlus** for the banking relationship and sponsorship of the new scoreboard and putting green area, the **Men's Golf Association** for donating the two televisions in the new addition and **Randy Berg** and **Bob Lloyd** for the work and support with ongoing drainage issues and future improvements around the new home sites in the area. I would also be remised not to mention the Castlewood's staff for their continued efforts and support. We are very fortunate to have the right people in place to run this organization on a day-to-day basis. As we continue to reach our goals with Castlewoods Country Club, we look forward to the best year in Castlewoods' history and hope everyone involved continues to enjoy the country club atmosphere created. As I write this article, we are in the reconstruction stage of the swimming pool and tennis court areas which is right on schedule, drainage and bunker renovation issues which continue to increase our enjoyment of the game, the creation and building of a new lake on 'The Bear' which is essential for the future plans on the course and many other projects that are on the drawing board for this year. Again, thanks to the membership and associates for all of their support this past year and we hope to continue a rewarding relationship for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Cecil Muse, Managing Partner—Castlewoods Country Club

TURF TALK by Mike Stupica, Golf Course Superintendent

Last month I complained about how dreadful February is in my mind. Apparently it heard me and decided to show me how bad it could be. It stayed so wet we couldn't think about leaving the cart path do anything. All plans we had were washed to the wayside and we find ourselves trying to regroup. They say patience is a virtue so I guess we will be very virtuous for a while and try to continue our bunker work when at all possible.

Very soon we will see buds poke out on the deciduous trees and the Dogwoods will light up the roadsides. March is the beginning of transition in Mississippi. Along with the trees starting to show signs of life the grasses will turn green and start to grow. The growth will be slow at first but never fear very soon we will be rolling out the mowers trying to keep up with out of control growth. There are a few more things we need to take care of before we get to far along. We will apply our spring pre-emerge application along with a potassium fertilizer. It will be done gradually over time as to work around wet spells and dry areas with the hopes of being complete by the middle of March. We plan to work with the weather as much as possible and hopefully have timely rains so we won't need to water that much.

There is nothing worse for a golfer who finally has some dry weather to enjoy his or her game and come to find out the superintendent has also taken advantage of the dry weather to water in his fertilizer application. We will make every effort to water as little as possible.

Did you know that repairing ball marks could stimulate growth? Yes, any time you cut a stolen from a piece of Bermuda grass twice as many leaves will grow in its place. How wonderful would that be to have twice as much leaf tissue to putt on? I guess what I am trying to say is ball marks on our greens are a problem especially this time of year when the grass is not growing. Please make every effort to find and fix your ball marks and help your fellow golfers by fixing one or two of theirs. Along with repairing ball marks I would like to ask our members who use pull carts to keep them away from the greens and try to stay out of wet spots. The narrow tires on these carts cause considerable damage to the course and the green surfaces in particular. Also I would like to touch on a few issues concerning golf cart traffic. Many homeowners enjoy using their own carts. I would ask our members who drive their carts to the course stay on roads or cart paths at all times. Please do not take short cuts particularly across fairways and the cart path that

crosses Castlewood's Boulevard by number one tee. We have made some roads in some spots that will need to be repaired at some point. These are just some of the many ways our members can help us keep this course in great condition.

Per the request of many members and the management at our club I am going to play golf on our course at least once per week. Most good superintendents do this because it helps to give them a golfers eye view of the course. It helps them prioritize the tasks for the grounds crews that can better suit the concerns of the members. I agree 100%. I love to play golf and look forward to doing so. That being said I need a partner. Starting this month I will have a tee time on Thursdays shortly after lunch. I invite any member who wishes to play to come along with me. This will give the members a great opportunity to talk about the course or the trees or what ever. I may even be able to sway the pro to tag along and give some free tips. Jay, have I ever told you how it makes me feel to beat the pro?

Mike Stupica

Golf Course Superintendent

Employee Spotlight— Gerri Norris, Food & Beverage

Gerri has been a fixture of Castlewoods Country Club for 20+ years. Her homemade Chicken Salad is a member favorite, as well as, her homemade chili.

She grew up in Arkansas and has been married for 28 years to CCC member, Henry Norris. Gerri enjoys animals, walking and listening to her favorite bands— Pink Floyd, Allman Brothers & all music genres (except rap).

No matter how “hot it gets in the kitchen”, Gerri has a smile for the members & staff at Castlewoods Country Club!



Membership Information

Beginning on April 1st, all new Pool and Tennis memberships will increase from \$40 per month to \$50 per month. All Pool and Tennis members are required to agree to a one-year contract.

Beginning in March, we will offer our current members a \$100 Food and Beverage credit for signing up a new member during the month of March and April. Once this new member is on board for 90 days, the member who secured the new member will have a Food and Beverage credit of \$100 applied to their account. To be eligible for this incentive, the new member must be a Full Individual member(160/month) at the minimum. For more info please contact Melissa at 992-1942.

Pool & Tennis NEWS

NEW PROGRAM FOR ADVANCED JUNIORS -

Limited to members of school varsity tennis team members or those with a State ranking. College level players will be accepted as well. Call for details.

1st ANNUAL

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP -

Singles format for Beginner, Intermediate & Advanced will take place in May. Doubles & Mixed Doubles will be scheduled later in the year.

Tennis Pro Shop has **NEW SPRING CLOTHES** arriving weekly. We are competitive with all other shops in the Jackson area. If we do not have what you are looking for in stock, we will be happy to order it for you.

TOP SPIN ACADEMY:

Is in full swing with new students starting monthly. The new Spring rate is \$65 per month for 2 hours each Saturday. Junior camps for the summer are being planned now. We have several college players from around the Southeast that will be coming to meet with the students & do clinics on various aspects of the game. There will be camps scheduled weekly starting June 1, except for the week of July 4th. These weekly camps will run until the end of July.

Please call in advance to

RESERVE COURT TIMES.

The Northwest Rankin H.S. team is using the facilities for their team practices which start daily at 1:30 & usually end around 3:30pm. The USTA has 3 teams playing at Castlewoods on Wednesday & Thursday nights.

BALL MACHINE RENTAL:

Available at \$10 per hour.

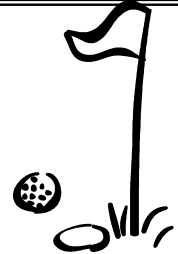
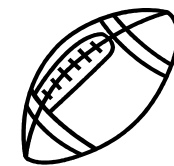
NEW ADULT BEGINNER CLASSES are starting and are limited to 8 students per class. Daytime &

evening classes are available. Please sign up by calling Buck at 992-5334.

The **RANKIN COUNTY TENNIS ASSOCIATION** will be using our facilities as their home base & meeting place in 2005. If you are a USTA member, you are automatically a member of RCTA. They are looking for programs to utilize funds to promote tennis in our community. Any players are urged to contact me for information.

INTERMEDIATE & ADVANCED LESSONS

are underway and may be joined by calling Buck at the Tennis Center.



SUPER BOWL

2 MAN SCRAMBLE

RESULTS:

LOW GROSS:

1. Michael Slack/Jeff Zachary 62
2. Duke Simmons/Ken Peacock 62
3. Gary Hand/Adam Hand 63

LOW NET:

1. Buddy Matthews/Danny Matthews 65
2. Ross Hollan/Kerry Hollan 69
3. George Butts/Travis Taylor 69

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 5th, Saturday	CLGA Kick-Off
March 5th, Saturday	Corkern/Pieralisi Wedding Reception—7:30 pm
March 12th, Saturday	Joiner/Crawford Wedding Reception—3:30 pm
March 17th, Thursday	Happy St. Patrick's Day!
March 25th, Friday	Titleist Demo Day
April 3rd, Sunday	March Madness—2Man Shamble

DIRECTORY:

ACCOUNTING—Joyce Gray	992-5334
EVENTS/MEMBERSHIP—Melissa Hall	992-5334
FOOD & BEVERAGE—Ruby Miller	992-5337
	Gerri Norris
GENERAL MANAGER—Max Maxwell	992-1942
PRO SHOP—Bill Trout, Pat Stephens	992-1942
	Jim Weems
SUPERINTENDENT—Mike Stupica	992-1937
TEACHING PROFESSIONAL — Jay Jordan	992-1942
TENNIS CENTER—Buck Boyd	992-5993

Dates & times are tentative; please call the Pro Shop at 992-1942 for more information.



Please send your suggestions on how to better the Club to Max at 992-1942 or fmaxwell@castlewoodscountryclub.com.



We're on the Web!

Castlewoodscountryclub.com

Tips from the Golf Pro by Jay Jordan

PROPER SETUP for CLEAN CONTACT CHIPPING

Crisp, clean contact is the number one requirement for good chipping. From normal fringe just off the green, you need to make a slightly descending blow to hit the ball cleanly. You don't want any grass getting between your clubface and the ball.

Your chipping stance should be very narrow, only four to six inches between the insides of your shoes. Stand with 60% to 65% of your weight on your front foot, which will help you make a slightly more descending swing in motion down and through impact for even cleaner contact.

Play the ball back about two to three inches behind your stance center. With such a narrow stance, that means the ball should be no farther forward than your ankle. To position the ball perfectly, address it with your feet pointed squarely at your target-line and the ball across from your back foot. Then open both feet about 20° without moving your heels. You should be very close to the ball and standing tall. Raise your hands and bow both of your wrists to keep them firm through the swing.

Standing tall and raising your hands should have another result—the heel of your club will rise off the ground while the toe stays down. Don't worry about stubbing the toe into the ground, because with the ball back in your stance, you will contact it well before the bottom of your swing arc, and the ball will be gone before the club scuffs the grass.

Be careful to align your clubface accurately in your setup, because with the ball two inches back in your stance, the tendency is to have your clubface open at address. Left uncorrected, this would lead to shots starting out to the right, so be sure to check that your clubface is squared properly to your target line. This may look slightly closed to you at first, but don't worry, because when your chip shots are struck crisply, roll solidly toward the cup, and stop close to the hole, you'll learn to think this setup looks great.

To improve your chipping game around the greens come out and let me teach you the proper technique.