



Rock Harbor News

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2015

Cole's Corner: The Short Game

Opening Day
Member
Scramble
April 26

Member Social
April 29

Member Social
May 27

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By Cole Lee:

Hello everyone! I'm glad that I have the opportunity to chat with you. I'll do my best to keep my discussions short and sweet, but also informative.



This month I would like to talk about the "short game". As a lot of other instructors believe, the "short game" is defined as: *from 100 yards to the edge of the green.* (Obviously the putting surface is the "putting game")

Studies from thousands of golfers show that nearly everyone makes almost every putt inside of 2 feet. Just a little further away to 3 feet and we start to miss. Touring Pros make only about 85% of 3 feet putts. Go back to 5 feet and the pros make this shot only 65% of the time. You and I, if we are lucky, will have a 50/50 chance of making a putt from 5 feet out. At 6 feet, the pros make only half of these shots. From 10 feet, no one makes better than 25%. From 15 feet? One in 10 chance, at best.

It has been proven that 65% of all our golf shots occur inside the 100 yards of the hole. And better yet, 80% of the shots we lose to par are inside the 100 yards as well. Coincidence? Not at all. This brings us to one special number. It's the difference between making nearly 100% of putts inside 2 feet and missing nearly 100% of putts inside of 10 feet.. Eight feet. So our best chance at birdie is inside of 10 feet, and we get there by our wedges, chips, pitches and bunker shots.

To reach our goals of scoring better we only need some practice. And we all can do it. If you are in reasonably good health, can walk around and enjoy the game and make contact with the ball, you can learn to score better.

Thanks for your time. I'll be seeing you soon!



Fresh From The Grill:



Chip Connelly, Food and Beverage Manager

Did you know that The Grill serves breakfast 7-days a week? The Grill serves everything you could want in a breakfast to help fill you up before you head out to the links. We serve breakfast sandwiches, pancakes, homemade sausage & gravy, omelets, juice, coffee and so much more.

Please note that beginning Sunday, April 12th the Grill will stay open until 6 p.m. for dinner (vs. 5 p.m. for Winter hours).

The exception is Saturday, we are open for dinner 4-8 p.m. Please remember that for seating after 7:30 p.m. on Saturday we require reservations.

Also, don't forget to "like" The Grill on Facebook to stay up



to date on any new menu offerings, specials and all your favorite Grill news.

Pictorial Diary Reveal: No. 6 & 15 Boulder



Future hole # will be 14 Boulder.

As you can see from the picture a lot of blasting and excavating was done to shape the hole. The boulders (pictured right) were removed and used elsewhere to build tee boxes. This picture is standing in front of the green looking back at the tee.



Before: October 27, 2006



After: March 23, 2015



Construction News

David Small (left) and Raul Albor-Garcia are working on the final stages of the last set of tee boxes to be completed for The Boulder Course. David and Raul are shaping, seeding and installing irrigation over the next several weeks to complete what will be called No. 8 Boulder when all is finished.



From The Ground Up: Spring Maintenance

Bobby Jenkins, Rock Harbor Superintendent

The Ground Maintenance crew have accomplished a lot of work since our last newsletter went out. They have been verticutting (1/4 inch. depth), aerofing and removing plugs from all the tee boxes.

The crew has also removed a lot of thatch from the older tee boxes on the course. We hope to do another light verticutting on some of the other older tees in the summer months.

In the Fall we will verticut, aerofy, and top-dress all the tees.

We should have top-dressed this Spring but we needed to let the tees dry out.

During the end of March and beginning of April we are also working on the bunkers. The crews are edging and adding new sand where necessary to each bunker on the entire course.

Some reminders for everyone:

Aerofing, verticut and top-dress schedule for greens:

- April 13-17 The Boulder
- April 20-24 The Rock, back 9
- April 27-May 1 The Rock, front 9

Welcome to our New Members:

Cliff and Dean Borden
David Schroeder
Scott Hanks
Rob Boyd

Member Corner: Gary Wingfield

From U.S. Marshall, to National Guard, to Marine Corp., to Ranger (Golf Ranger).

Gary Wingfield has seen it all and practically done it all.

In 1968 Gary went to Vietnam with the US Marine Corp. In 1990 he served in Desert Storm and Desert Shield with the US National Guardsmen. He has also worked for the US Government in General Service Administration and as a US Marshall for 21-years.

You may wonder why, after all the excitement, travel, adventure and danger Gary would choose to settle down as a golf ranger at Rock Harbor Golf Course. I wondered too, but the answer was simple, he was ready for a slower pace. This may be the secret behind his calm, cool attitude. I guess its hard for things on the golf course to get under your skin when your life has been on the

line for your country for so many years. I assume the casual atmosphere and fresh air of Rock Harbor can almost feel like a vacation for the mind after spending time in Vietnam and the Middle East. Fighting the links has got to be easier than the enemy.

Gary found his way to Rock Harbor after a trip to Myrtle Beach in 2007 with his kids where he played golf for the first time. It was a natural fit for him and filled his retirement time well. The idea of becoming a ranger didn't happen until last summer when Gary thought it would be a great combination of spending time on the course and filling some of his free time.

In the short amount of time Gary has been playing he has developed his game quite quickly. He has favorite holes, favorite clubs and even a favor-

ite course, all with good reason.

Gary was asked about his participation in the Hawk matches, but much like Ted Neff, had very little to say about them, but the thoughtful smile was enough to tell me it was not a story he was going to share for me to print. Gary had a lot of stories but you will have to do some work yourself to get them.

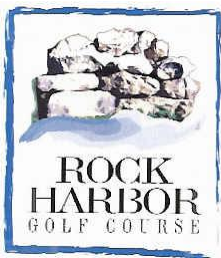
Outside of playing golf Gary also enjoys antique cars and traveling to Myrtle Beach.

Introduce yourself to Gary and know that you are in good hands while playing golf on his watch.



Quick Facts about Gary

Favorite Course:	The Boulder
Favorite Club:	5 Hybrid
Favorite Hole:	#9 The Rock
Least Favorite Hole:	#11 Boulder



Rock Harbor Golf Course

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To subscribe or unsubscribe to this free newsletter send
an e-mail to mistyautumn@comcast.net

**GAME IMPROVEMENT?
It's NOT the Arrow...**

LESSONS AVAILABLE –
Jerry Wampler, PGA Professional
(540) 327-6963
Cole Lee
(540) 722-7111
Eddie Cassidy
(540) 533-2205

Contact these individuals for prices and availability.

“2015 PGA Tour Golf Majors Pool”

The Masters pool prophecy is available to any interested persons.

See Cole for details

*Check our **NEW** website for a complete listing of scheduled events and starting times

We're on the Web
Rockharborgolf.com

Rock Harbor Calendar of Events 2015

April 10

FBI Softball
Golf Outing

April 17

Knights of Columbus
Golf Tournament

April 18

FREE Beginners Clinic
Signup at Proshop

April 25

Millbrook H.S. Football
Booster Golf Tournament

April 26

Member Opening Day
Scramble

April 29

Member Social

May 1

Blue Ridge Kiwanis Golf

May 8

Youth Development

May 9

American Cancer Society
Relay 4 Life

May 15,16,17

Fairways for Youth

May 22

HP Hood, LLC Outing

May 23

FREE Beginners Clinic

May 27

James Wood Athletic As.
Golf Tour

May 27

Member Social Event

June 2

VSGA One Day