



# Rock Harbor News

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## Goodbye 2015 and Welcome 2016!

*Gerri Lum, Pro Shop Manager:*

All righty then! Say goodbye to 2015 and welcome in 2016!

Our annual Christmas social and sale was a tremendous hit, more attended than ever before. It got the kitchen a little shook but as a former NCOIC (non-commissioned officer in charge) would say to me, " 'aint no hill for no High Stepper!" And the folks at the Grill; Chris, Jasmine, Darel, Shelly, Lorna, Kim, Sharon, Emily and newcomer, Annie and of course, Chip are all high steppers and do a fabulous job for us. So a hearty thank you to all and each of them. We look forward to many more of these types of gatherings and that more members may partake with the enjoyment of each other's company, share a few tales and celebrate that we are all part of the greatest golf club in the area. – By the way, we still have a lot of inventory to clear so stop by the Proshop and I'm sure we can work with you on these in-stock items.

And so when it comes to past, another year under the belt and maybe in some cases over the belt. (lol) A lot of lessons were learned. Some experiments were best served left on the discussion table, yet with the year that we enjoyed, pretty good, indeed.

During this offseason, we plan to make some repairs and reclamation within the clubhouse. We hope we're able to accomplish this feat when the least impact will be felt. So when that may be is hard to say. Especially in light of the recent un-seasonal weather that we've been experiencing.

On behalf of the Proshop staff; Cole, Robert, Kyle, Ryan, Andrew, Brady, Adrienne, Lyndsey, Zachary and Katarina as well as your player/guest assistants; Dave, Bernie, Bobby, Cliff, Charlie, Gary E., Gary W., Ellen, Mac, John, Joe, Lem, Richard, Rod, Tom and Thom, I want to thank you all for the best wishes throughout the Yuletide and then extend to all of you, a very Happy & Prosperous 2016 as we here at Rock Harbor endeavor to do our very best to make it so.

Happy New Year, everyone!

Good Night & Good Luck!



## Fresh From The Grill

Chip Connelly,  
Director of Food and Beverage:  
Welcome 2016! As the new season gets started, the Rock Harbor Grill is making big plans for the New Year. We will be hosting additional "Social" evenings through the month of March. On Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, we will present Jen Smith from Stonebrook who will be

discussing Golf Fitness. On Jan. 20<sup>th</sup> our own beloved Bobby Jenkins will discuss Golf Course Maintenance. On the 27<sup>th</sup> we will have the (now) traditional end of month social mixer.

All of these emporiums will commence at 6 p.m. with Hors D'Ouvres and cash bar. Please call the

grill (722-9678) and RSVP to let us know you'll be attending.

Bright moments, fairways & greens and best wishes for the New Year.



Please RSVP for the Open House/Social/Mixers NLT the Monday prior by calling The Grill @ 540-722-9678 or emailing Chip @ [chip@rockharborgolf.com](mailto:chip@rockharborgolf.com)

## From The Ground Up

*Bobby Jenkins, Course Superintendent:*



"How many times have I told you not to play golf in this weather, Big Shooter? I'm getting tired of thawing you out."

All in all, it was a good year. The weather started out wet, then slowly turned to a drought. This forced me to pump the main irrigation pond down to where the pumps wouldn't pick up the water. So then we had to transfer water from one pond to another pond before it finally rained and brought the levels back up to a normal range.

We got an early start on eliminating the disease problem that lingered from 2014. Because of this early action we were able to get the disease under control.

We aerified, verticut, top-dressed and over-seeded all of the original 18 greens.

We were able to successfully convince the mounds on 5 & 6 Rock to accept water and they are no longer drying out.

The new Boulder holes were opened in June and three of the greens didn't come out of the winter very healthy, so we had to over-seed them. Since doing so, the greens have slowly been growing in properly.

We are hoping to be on track with aerifying in the Spring of the Boulder course and also over-seeding. Other than normal maintenance issues it was a great year.

Even more than course conditions, our most talked about issue in the maintenance department was by far, *The Hawk Rescue*. (See September 2015 issue for full story)

Have a Happy New Year! Don't forget the maintenance talk on January 20th.

# Cole's Corner: Rough Days

Cole Lee, Tournament Director:

We have those days where we just can't hit the fairway... Body English will never bring the ball back from the path the ball is on so where do we go from here? It's laying down deep in the spinach or nestled deep in the cabbage with only a few options.

Amateurs always want to hit that heroic shot they see on TV that the lie does not provide. Most of the time TV does not do justice to how bad the lie actually is. And of course...those guys are great players that we see making those shots. We have to think logically about our expectations and our abilities compared to theirs.

First, look at how the ball is sitting in the grass. Is it on top? Halfway down? Nestled down to the bottom? More often than not, we should always look to get back in play. Especially with the hazards and protection Mr. Perry has provided for our challenges. Most golfers don't take their medicine when they should when they have a poor lie. We need to change the stereotype and show we have the decision making skills of a tour pro.

Point blank. If it's nestled down to the soil, use loft and get it back into play. Don't hit the 5 wood because you can reach it there. Take your normal stance, setup and grip a little tighter than normal. I say again, just a little tighter. Not so hard you don't hinge your wrists like you should. We make sure our hands at setup are correct: slightly in front of the ball. Also consider standing a little closer to the ball. These fundamentals help us have a steeper angle of attack to reduce the amount of grass between the ball and clubface. Simple steps will take us a long way.

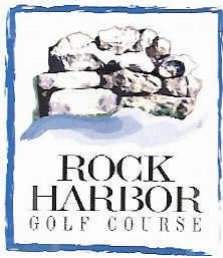
We usually get our ineffective shots by club selection, wrists not hinging, deceleration, or poor course management. So let's smarten up our game by thinking ahead and playing this game to our actual ability and not unrealistic expectations. We do play this game for fun so let's make the most of it, right? Love you all!!



**Pictorial Diary: No. ???**



Lots of landmarks and background scenes should make this an easy guess for all our veteran players. This picture was taken in April of 2009.



## Rock Harbor Golf Course

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an e-mail to [mistyautumn@comcast.net](mailto:mistyautumn@comcast.net)

## Top 10 Ways to Save Your Golf Game This Winter

According to an article in FORBES magazine from 2012, you can improve your game over the winter.

Here are 10 ways:

1. Hit the weights
2. Improve your mental game
3. Learn to like Yoga
4. Swing weighted clubs
5. Practice in the mirror
6. Visit the driving range
7. Chip and putt on carpet
8. Do one-armed drills
9. Head to the simulator
10. Watch the Golf channel

To read the full article go to our Facebook page and click on the link to Forbes Magazine.

**We're on  
Facebook**

**We're on the web  
[Rockharborgolf.com](http://Rockharborgolf.com)**

## Winter Activities for Members

January 20th @ 6 PM Course Maintenance

January 27th @ 6 PM Social– No agenda

February 10th @ 6 PM USGA Rules and Handicapping

February 24th @ 6 PM Prospective Members Invitational

March 9th @ 7 PM Ladies Night

March 30th @ 7 PM Sand & Suds and Member League Draw