



OGC Newsletter

August 2011



Please Welcome our New Members!!

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Sponsored by Charlie DuBois and Dr. Mike Woods

Members who returned from Demit!!
Their information is in the Directory

Dan and Kathy McCarthy
Greg and Jan Erickson

Directory Changes

Bill Denton	New email: <u>bdenton624@gmail.com</u>
Cheryl McKenzie (needs a j added after Cheryl)	New email: <u>cheryljmckenzie@sbcglobal.net</u>

Membership *by Jeanette*

Great News!! OGC Membership is full with 175 members and 12 seniors, and a few already on the waiting list for the 2012 season. Having the support of the membership with their referrals and the continual communication with their friends, neighbors and business associates makes this all happen for the success of OGC. A special thank you to all.

We are sharing in this newsletter a great article published August 1, 1961 in the Milwaukee Journal and provided to us by our resident historian, Bill Friar, is a 50-year look back about OGC. I love the part about discussion on building a new clubhouse in 1961 and the “hole for the basement had been dug in 1919 and still there”.



We received a thank you letter from Martha Schmidt, Development Officer of the Waukesha Memorial Hospital Foundation for the support and endorsement of Pink Ribbon Day, which began here in 2004 to-date. The OGC’s Women’s Association raised \$112,752.24 in this 8-year period. Kudos to all the organizers and contributors.

Clubhouse News *by Larry*

Saturday, August 6th, is our seventh annual **“Festa OGC”** party and this is a party you don’t want to miss. We’ll start the festivities at 5:00 pm with passed hors d’oeuvres and time to mill about outside, enjoy a glass of wine and try your hand at our now infamous Couples Bocce Ball Tourney. At 7:00 pm we will sit down to dinner featuring Sicilian beef tenderloin. After dinner the evening will continue inside with music and dancing performed by “Rick D’Amore”.



Wednesday, August 10th will be our 3rd **pasta buffet** of the season. These nights are extremely popular so please call ahead for a reservation to assure we can accommodate your group!! Chef Bob and his whirling pans will once again delight you with a pasta creation made to order!!

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, on Saturday, August 27th OGC will bring back an old favorite, **“NIGHT GOLF”** This event will begin with a 9-hole 4 person scramble at 5:30 pm. After golf, relax at the bar with a margarita or a Corona as we prepare a Mexican Buffet to fortify you for your next adventure. At approximately 9:00 pm we will go back out on the golf course for a five-hole night golf tournament complete with glowing golf balls, necklaces and hazard markers!!

More and more of you are going green and reusing your Styrofoam cups. The club does go through approximately 30,000 of those cups a year and they don’t readily break down in the landfills. So, to help you and the environment out, last fall we brought in a hard plastic, insulated cup with a screw on lid and our logo. **Cups are available for \$8.00.**

Green Side Up *by Dustin*

Despite the high temperatures, high humidity and lack of rainfall, the golf course is handling the stresses from this summer pretty well. Of course, we have some minor blemishes from the heat and dry soil. However, this is another challenging season that has proven that converting the fairways to bentgrass was a great decision. The old fairway turf would have become thin and undesirable after the stretch a weather we just endured. Managing the fairways to reduce and limit *Poa annua* will forever be important. The *Poa annua* becomes stressed and weakened by the summer conditions and therefore August is a great time to start up our *Poa annua* removal tactics. In mid August, I will begin the 1st of several Velocity Herbicide applications. Velocity will immediately remove the weakest *Poa annua* plants. Repeating the applications another 1-2 times through mid-September should reduce our percentage of *Poa annua* in the fairways to less than 10% allowing the bentgrass the best chance to over take any weaken plants.

August is always an important month for the maintenance of the golf course. On August 22nd and 23rd, the greens are scheduled for core aeration. Core aeration is extremely beneficial in maintaining healthy bentgrass greens. By performing this task in mid/late August, the warm soil temperatures should promote a fast healing as well as limit the potential for *Poa annua* germination. Core aeration at this time also allows an excellent opportunity to overseed and introduce a newer variety of bentgrass. The bentgrass variety 007 blends well with our existing turf, but provides a much higher quality playing surface. I have been introducing 007 into our putting surface each of the last 3 years.

As mentioned in the email message sent July 23rd, a new project will begin shortly. The small chipping green and practice complex will be renovated. The intent is to recreate a green that looks and plays similar to that of the golf course. To do so, the new green's putting surface will be produced using grass taken from the golf course greens during our core aeration. Aeration cores will be collected and spread across the new green along with a small amount of seed. The resulting putting surface should mature and closely resemble our 95-year old greens. The new approach and fairway area will be seeded to Memorial bentgrass, matching the golf course fairways. Construction and grow-in procedures are directly impacted by weather. Completing the construction and re-grassing by August 23rd should provide 6-8 weeks of respectable growing weather prior to winter. If all goes well, I anticipate a spring opening of approx. May 1st.

Summer is far from over, however as each day passes, so does the threat for an extended period of heat and humidity. Good luck to all in the Club Championships and the remaining Club events.

Recent Maintenance Blog Updates: [Oconomowoc Golf Club's Turf Care and Golf Course Maintenance blog](http://oconomowocgolfclubgrounds.blogspot.com) at oconomowocgolfclubgrounds.blogspot.com

July 17, 2011 Range Tee Divot Management

July 1, 2011 Water Management

June 30, 2011 Ecological Management of *Poa annua*

On the Tee Box *by Chuck*

Summer is here and so is Match Madness!!!

The intensity, the angst, the grinding...it's match play and the Men's Club Championship matches as well as the July Cup matches are moving forward. You will be able to follow your favorite players work their way through the brackets via Golf Shop email updates. August will be an active month with a variety of instruction and event activities... hopefully a little something for everybody!

Mark your calendars and call or email to sign up:

Men's Invitational – Thursday, August 11

Member-Guest teams are grouped by flights according to total team handicap. Teams will play three nine-hole matches (a match vs. each team in their respective flight). Flight winners will then participate in a shoot-out to determine the Overall Champion. Wednesday practice round – call for times after 2:00 pm. Thursday begins with a full breakfast followed by two 9-hole matches. Break for Lunch followed by final 9-hole match. Dinner, prizes and, perhaps, an adult beverage wind up the day.

Note: Only a few spots remain, Call today!

Men's Senior Championship – Thursday, August 19

Annual 18-hole stroke play for senior men. Sign up at the first tee. Gross and Net Champions crowned in the following divisions: 55-59; 60-69, 70+ and Gold tee open.

Men's Club Championship - Round 3 (Semi-Final) matches

Watch for "Bracketology" emails for complete results

Deadlines: Round 3 - Thursday, August 4

Finals, by Sunday, September 4th

Thank you for respecting the deadlines.

Saturday, August 20 – Junior Golf Wrap Up

Junior Golf Program participants and their adult playing partners (mom, dad, grandfather, grandmother) will play a 9 hole alternate shot. Golf will be followed by a buffet dinner, awards and prizes. **Call the golf shop to reserve your spot.**

Saturday, August 21 – Couples Guest Day

Format: 2 Best 4 (One best net of men plus one best net of women)
1:00pm Shotgun start followed by dinner and awards.

Friday evening, August 26 - Couples Golf

Open to 12 couples. 9 hole Alternate Shot format. 5:30 shotgun start.
Fish Fry dinner at 7:45.

Instruction Opportunities

Private Lessons

Prefer a one on one session to work on your game? Individual private lessons will help you accomplish your goals. Whether you are a beginner looking for direction or a skilled player in need of a little refinement, we can design a lesson program to meet your needs:

Fees: 1\2 hour \$40- Chuck \$35- Chris
Hour \$70- Chuck \$60- Chris

Private Group Lessons

Want to learn the game with friends? Arrange for your group to take a lesson. We can design a program to fit your needs. One hour minimum. Fee: \$50 per hour (minimum of 2 participants)

Chip Shots...

Monday Play

Monday, August 8, 15 & 22 - Course closed due to private outings
Monday, August 9 & 29 – Course open to Member and guest play at 2:00pm.

Men's Senior District & Ladies District Championship

Friday, August 12
8:00am Shotgun Start
Open play off #1 tee at 12:30pm

Junior Golf

Tuesday, August 2, 9 and 16 are Junior Golf mornings.
Juniors have priority

Sunday Specials

Sunday, August 7, 14 and 28 are Sunday Special afternoons.
Bring guests after 2 pm and stay for dinner
The golf fee (including cart) is only \$30!!!!

**Calendar included with the newsletter is always an update
to printed directory calendars**
**Our newsletters, calendars and event flyers are posted
on our website at www.ocongolfclub.org for easy reference.**

Lake Golfers Eye New Mecca

Construction begun in Oconomowoc

By SANDRA COTA
Of The Journal Staff

OCONOMOWOC, Wis. — Since 1919, members of the Oconomowoc Golf club



Mr. Johnson

have been talking about building a new clubhouse. Last month construction finally was started. "The hole for the basement was dug in 1919 and it was still there," reported

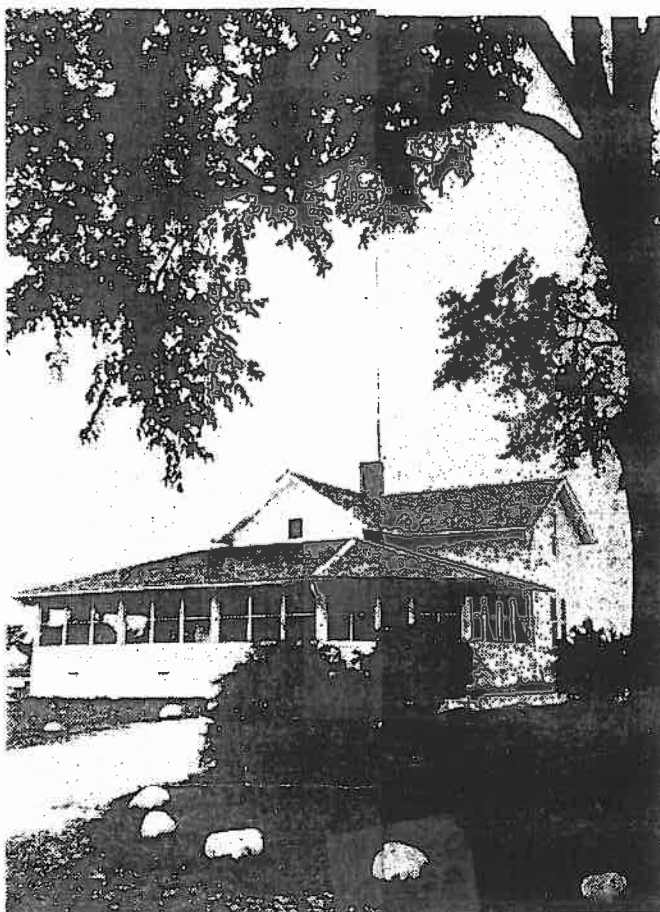
the president, George C. Johnson. "Present plans for building were started last winter." The prolonged delay in getting the building project under way might be attributed, Johnson noted, to the fact that membership of the club always has been small and four corporations have been involved in its operation. And, in recent years, stock that had to be purchased before construction could be started was tied up in estates.

Oconomowoc was the opulent summer playground of Milwaukee and Chicago millionaires when the original Grand View Co. was formed in 1912. Showplace mansions studded the shores of Lac La Belle and Oconomowoc lake and the parties held in them were said to rival any in the country in their elegance. Yet there was nothing pretentious about the farmhouse that was converted for the club's headquarters.

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The small white frame clubhouse long has been inadequate, particularly in the matter of locker space, the president observed. It has a small pro shop, lounge, bar and short order grill. It functions strictly as a golf club, with no provision for a social program, and there is little likelihood that this will be changed when the new clubhouse is completed.

"The club is rather unique in this respect," Johnson said.



This small white clubhouse has for years served golfers in the Oconomowoc area. The building is a converted farmhouse.

—Journal Photo

"But with all the lakes in the area, most members can swim right in their back yards. And there are six to eight good eating spots within five miles, so if we tried to operate as a country club we would have real competition."

An arrangement the club had with the Oconomowoc Lake club in its early years helped establish its reputation as a golf headquarters.

"For many years, anyone who was a member of one was a member of both," the president explained. "After golf, they could go to the lake club for cocktails, swimming, boating and dinner."

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"I think the combination deal ended during the depression," he added. "Now there probably are only 10 to 15 golf club members who also belong to the lake club."

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Cost of the new clubhouse, which is expected to be ready for use when the season opens in April, has been estimated at \$150,000 to \$170,000. It will be situated on a hill at the southeast corner of the course that is one of the highest points in the area and affords a view for several miles in every direction.

The main portion of the compact, frame structure with rough cedar siding will contain an 18 by 48 foot lounge, bar, card room, locker rooms and storage areas. If need be, the lounge eventually could be expanded into the small wing which would house the pro shop, office and kitchen.

An eight foot terrace will be built on three sides of the building and a sundeck at the back will overlook the practice green. The basement will be utilized for storage of golf clubs and carts.

f.

c.

Completion of the clubhouse also will bring about changes in the course, Johnson said. The holes will be renumbered to conform with the original blueprint, which intended that the present first hole be the second. The 18th hole will become number one, and the "nines" will meet at the clubhouse.

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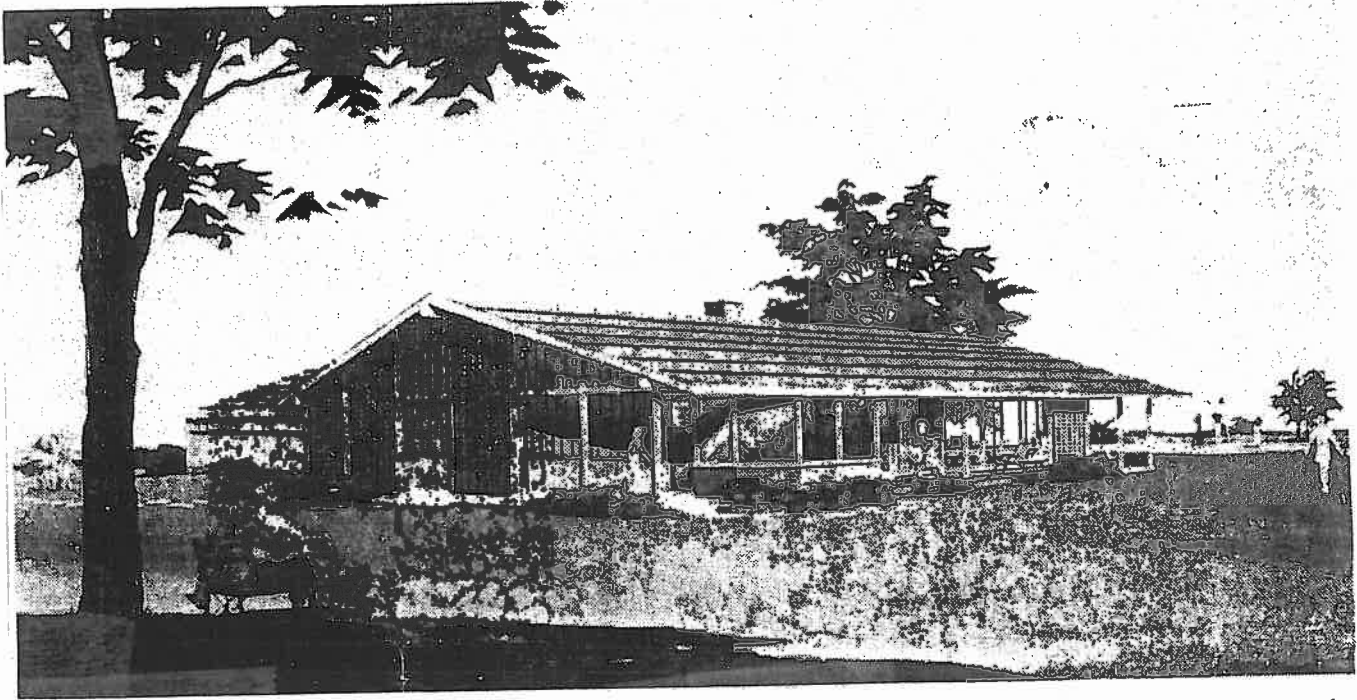
The club now has about 85 members, including a sizable number of young doctors and dentists from Wauwatosa, Elm Grove and Brookfield. Originally, it drew most of its golfers from the affluent summer colony, and its first roster read like a "who's who" in midwestern business and social circles.

One of the prime movers in the formation of the Grand View Co. in 1912 was the late John W. Mariner, a wealthy Milwaukee real estate investor. He was an enthusiastic golfer and a leader of the club for many years.

Other Milwaukeeans among the original members were four widely known attorneys, George P. Miller, Francis Bloodgood, jr., Charles F. Fawcett, sr., and Edgar L. Wood, all now deceased. Miller's son-in-law, William M. Chester, sr., also joined the infant golf group. He is chairman of the board of the T. A. Chapman Co., and Miller had been president.

Milwaukee was represented, too, by the late Dr. C. E. Albright, ace underwriter of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.; the late W. C. Frye, who headed the Chain Belt Co., and the late George P. Earling, former secretary-treasurer of the Central Coal Co. and son of Albert J. Earling, who for many years was president of the Milwaukee Road.

Other early members included the late Fred Pabst, sr., chairman of the board of the Pabst Brewing Co. and a noted cattle breeder; the late S. G. Courteen, founder of the Courteen Seed Co.; the late George F. Markham, sr., founder and president of the old Federal Pressed Steel Co.; Brinton Welser, retired senior vice-president of Chain Belt Co., and H. E. Dickinson, now of Pasadena, Calif., a cattle breeder whose Oconomowoc lake estate was sold in March.



A frame building sided with rough cedar will be the new headquarters for the Oconomowoc Golf club. Initial work

on the structure began in 1919, but not until last month did actual construction get under way.

The late Patrick A. Valentine, sr., an official of Armour & Co., was one of several Chicagoans among the first members. His wife, considered the queen of summer society, had been the widow of Philip Danforth Armour, jr., son of the founder of the meat packing company. Other Chicagoans who joined the new club were George W. Dixon, sr., D. W. Buchanan, sr., and Harry Hart.

* * *

The organizers purchased a 160 acre tract in the town of Oconomowoc and raised \$160,000 to complete the course. One of the mainstays of the fund drive was Milwaukee social arbiter Mrs. Walter Dake, then Mrs. Lawrence Fitch.

After the basement was dug, the group gave up and used the money to build a nine hole course, Johnson said. The second nine holes were added sometime in the late 1920's, discontinued during World War II and rebuilt after the war.

Late in 1927, the property was conveyed to the Country Club of Oconomowoc, which had been incorporated in July, 1926. The Grand View Co. was dissolved in December, 1927. Sometime during this period, the president noted, Dr. Albright took a \$20,000 mortgage on the property. Eventually an assessment was levied against the members and the mortgage was bought up in the late 1930's.

The Oconomowoc Country club, which presently owns the land and buildings, was incorporated in August, 1940. At about the same time, the Oconomowoc Golf club was formed, and it leased the property.

"Starting in 1941, the golf club started purchasing the country club stock," Johnson said. "In the last two years we succeeded in getting the balance, and now own all of it. The last 27 or 28 shares were in the John I. Beggs estate."

* * *

Until five years ago, the club never had more than 60 or 70 members, he said. At that time George F. Markham, jr., became president and he increased the membership to 128 last year.

The drop this year probably was caused, he added, by the issuance of \$500 membership certificates and an increase in dues.

This season, a regular membership costs \$225 plus tax and an intermediate membership, for those between 21 and 35 years of age, is set at \$175. Previously there were several classifications, including full (\$200), nonresident (\$175), intermediate, for the 30 to 35 age group (\$150), and a 20 to 30 age bracket (\$125).

The course seldom is congested, and to prevent such a possibility, the membership limit will be set at about 150, Johnson said.

At the president's request, Floyd G. (Red) Leonard, the Milwaukee Country club pro for 27 years, has ended his three year retirement to help get the new club organized.

* * *

Johnson, who is an Oconomowoc attorney and Waukesha county municipal judge, was elected president last fall. Other board members are Charles F. Callison, George F. Markham, jr., Henry Gottfredson, Municipal Judge Scott Lowry, Dr. Joseph Griffith, Leo J. Weix and Edwin Coleman.

The most notable golfer the club has produced is Lynford Lardner, jr., who won the state amateur championship five times. Johnson was the champion in 1936, but at that time he was not a member of the club.

One of Johnson's early memories of the course was a time as a boy when he caddied for S. G. Courteen, who had purchased the Montgomery Ward farm at Oconomowoc.

"Courteen was playing a man from Kansas City and bet a Holstein heifer against \$100 per hole," he recalled. "He won \$500 and gave me a \$50 tip. Until then I'd never seen anything bigger than a \$5 bill."

August 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Clubhouse Closed Member Golf after 2pm Range & Carts Open	2 Junior Golf 8am to 12 noon	3	4	5	6 FESTA OGC 5:00 cocktails 7:00 Dinner
7	8 Private Outing	9 Junior Golf 8am to 12 noon	10 Pasta Buffet 5 to 8	11 MEN'S INVITATIONAL All Day	12 Men's Sr District 8:00 am Ladies District Champ 11:00am	13
14	15 Private Outing	16 Junior Golf 8am to 12 noon	17	18 Men's Sr Club Championship	19	20 Junior Wrap Up 3:30pm Shotgun 6:30pm Buffet
21 Couples Guest Day 1pm Shotgun	22 Private Outing COURSE CLOSED Aerate Greens	23 CLUB & COURSE CLOSED Aerate Greens	24	25	26 Men's Sr. District Rain Date Couples 9 Hole & Fish Fry 5:30pm shotgun	27 Night Golf 5:00 9-HOLE GOLF Scramble 7:30 Dinner 5-Hole Golf at Dusk
28 Family Friendly Sunday Dinner 5 to 9	29 Clubhouse Closed Member Golf after 2pm Range & Carts Open	30	31			