

Ambassador Meeting January 17, 2025

Hi everyone,

Get comfy: this is a long one.

I had a tennis match and couldn't attend the Ambassador's meeting today, but fortunately Dianne Connor and Linda Ritter took notes (thank you!). Here goes:

- Island Express (the new kitchen for the Island Bar): The new pavers are being installed and this work will continue into next week with the hope that the new Island Express will be ready for use within the next two weeks. The propane will be connected next week. Landscaping around the Island Express will include shrubs, trees, and flowers.
- There will be a newly designed cut through from the parking lot over to Tavern 59 and the Island Bar. The newly installed pavers are not intended for additional seating areas but are being installed to provide more room for servers around the existing seating,
- New plate-ware has been ordered and a new menu will go into effect once the Island Express is operational (the menu looks good; it's substantive enough for a meal but definitely differentiated from the Tavern). Food includes soup, salad, sandwiches, pizza and sundaes.
- Someone asked about walk up ordering from the Island Express window (that was previously considered), but it was explained that this will NOT be an option. Only servers will access the Island Express to pick up food. Exciting!
- Pickleball Courts update: Construction resumed this past Monday . The asphalt should be poured today or early next week and then will need to cure for 62 days. There will be landscaping around the courts and the courts will be top finished and painted once the asphalt cures.
- Elvis is hoping to have them in use by the middle to end of March. A 42 inch awning , 6 overhead fans, bench seating under the awning , and a water cooler will complete the project.
- General information: Elvis is looking at June to begin the Clubhouse upstairs renovation (Charleston Room, Living Room, etc). This will include the smaller rooms and offices, which will include new paint, flooring, furniture , etc. to update and brighten this area. Elvis is presently meeting with a decorating team to make the selections and put this plan into place.
- The kids' playground area is still on the list to be addressed and renovated.
- Elvis is looking into getting new chairs for the tavern bar as the present chairs are difficult to slide in and out.

- Ooh: this is exciting! On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, through April, the fire pit will be lit from 6-8:30 pm. Members are invited to enjoy the seating around the fire on a first come, first served basis. A fun way to spend a couple of hours.
- Elvis encouraged members to go and see the Butterfly gardens; the gardens near the croquet courts have been very active with beautiful flowers and butterflies.
- Golf: The Halfway grille will be open beginning next Friday , from 10:30-3:00, with hot dogs, hamburgers, and chicken sandwiches available for purchase. The beverage cart will be available on the course from 3:00-6:00.
- Golf: A great deal of work has occurred on all three courses. The bunker work , which began at the end of the summer, is nearly complete. This is a big project: over five acres of bunkers on our courses.
- If you noticed the flags on the courses, they are from a mapping project of the present irrigation system. This process was necessary before any update to our present system could be considered.
- There have been issues with our tee sheet system . These issues are being addressed by the vendor, and the vendor is restarting the server tonight to try and resolve the issue. Nick is hopeful that we will be back on track next week .
- Nick stated all three courses have been busy with about 300 golfers a day (total).
- The member/member tournaments for the men and women were very successful.
- The men's invitational and the ladies' ringer tournaments are coming up in February.
- With all of the bunker work these last few months, Nick will send out information regarding where to leave rakes near the bunkers, and the etiquette for going in and out of the bunkers and then walking onto the greens,
- There have been several 911 emergencies recently, both on the golf course and on the club property. On the golf course, if there is an emergency, call 911 first, then call the pro shop or clubhouse. The 911 team can locate you from the phone where the call was placed and although the staff is well trained for emergencies, the rescue workers need to be the first to be called for assistance. (I was up at the Club for this week's emergency in the gym and on the pickleball courts: Jobe and Manny were right on it and knew exactly what to do).
- Jobe mentioned that it is important, even in this cooler weather, to stay hydrated at all times and to eat properly before and after exercising.
- Johanna stated that members and guests cannot double park around the clubhouse entrance or rescue workers will not be able to get their vehicles in when an emergency occurs.
- Fitness: The fitness area is busy with members, their guests, and family. Jobe emphasized the importance of informing guests and family of the rules regarding proper attire , behavior,

and the cleaning and sanitation of equipment. In addition, he reminded us that only closed toed shoes can be worn in the fitness center.

- Jobe stated that even with the cooler weather, the pool temperature has not dropped below 80 degrees.
- Jobe reminded members to be aware of the construction around the fitness center, and that workers need room to do their jobs. Give them space.
- Jobe did a great job with the pickleball boot camp (I attended one of the days; I was there the day Jobe learned to play: I think he somehow improved a WHOLE lot more than I did in the same time period!) He continues to teach pickleball if you're interested.
- The Croquet team won two matches: kudos.
- Jobe stated that fitness classes are busy. He is open to suggestions for new classes provided that there are 4-6 people willing to participate.
- Tennis, pickleball, bocce: As to tennis and pickleball, leagues are busy . Pickleball players are looking forward to the four new courts.
- The King and Queen pickleball event is full.
- Manny is putting together an explosive pickle ball tournament . Players are urged to sign up , as it promises to be a fun event with lots of music to accompany the matches.
- The men's tennis league has 16 players and the women's travel tennis team is undefeated.
- The winter bocce league is underway and the bocce courts are busy but scheduling has gone well so far.
- Events: Elvis encouraged members to participate in the events that are planned for the season. An ambassador asked that details of all events be put out at least a week in advance so that members can plan accordingly.
- Elvis stated that the New Year's Eve party was a huge success and even with the unexpected rain, the staff was able to keep the attendees comfortable. He commended the staff for their incredible work that evening. The fireworks show, if you missed it, can be seen on the Club's Facebook site.
- The Deb and the Dynamics Thirsty Thursday event is coming up this weekthis is always a popular event and we have many reservations already.
- The Health Fair event this month was very successful, and the speakers were well informed.
- Vicki has many events in the works and the seasonal calendar should be out shortly: below are some of the upcoming events.
 - There is a Valentine's dinner next month as well as a dueling piano concert.
 - In March there will be a Beatles Mania event.

- At the end of February, and again in April, the Ben Allen Band will be here to entertain.
- There will be theme nights on Wednesdays (Italian, India, Seafood, etc.).
- The fashion show is next month featuring a range of women's fashions from two Naples shops.
- There will be Irish dancers for our St. Patrick's Day Celebration in March.
- There will be another blood drive in April
- There is a strand flea market planned in April (details to follow); I think it's going to be called the Strand Treasures Garage Sale. Clean out your closet and plan to bring your no longer needed treasures to sell.
- Table Tennis will continue and a clinic will take place bi-weekly.
- Chess will continue weekly.
- Several art classes are planned.
- Vicki is looking to get a speaker to do a presentation on Honey Bees.
- There will be another shredding event in April.
- We are donating proceeds from the broccoli cheddar soup to the Empty Bowl Fundraiser this weekend.
- Vicki is open to ideas as to future events, so let her know if you have ideas.
- During Vicki's presentation, she asked us to mention to all members, that if there is a dispute on your bill, you can call or email her, but please be patient as she needs time to determine the error and correct it.
- As to Food and Beverage, Chef stated that theme nights this season include: Italian, Mediterranean, French, Indian, Caribbean, as well as a Lobster night.
- A Super Bowl event is planned with a huge TV screen outside of the Island Bar and Tavern. There is a special menu for this event . ar
- A new fine dining menu will be out within the next two weeks. The Island Bar and Tavern menus have been updated and will be available when the Island Express opens.
- Chef stated that the wine dinner was a big success and the ambassadors who attended raved about the food and wine selections.
- There are to-go boxes for the food and wine selections. There are to-go boxes for those who order off the menu but to-go boxes are **not** available for buffets.
- Dress codes must be adhered to in all dining venues. Johanna does review dress code protocols with all new members.

- Trivia night continue monthly...for this event, a new projector was purchased by the clubs Minnesota group, and the club purchased a new screen for trivia night festivities.
- While football season continues the football menu will be available when there is a game on tv. The pasta buffet will also continue.
- A note as to fashion show reservations: you can now reserve seats (it was going to be open seating). If you are less than 8-10 people in your group, you will be joined with other attendees; there are no small tables available (in order to accommodate everyone, we will be using large tables only.)
- Notify the conservation society if you see a poisonous snake.

That is it for this month; thanks to Dianne and Linda for the notes. Our next meeting is 2/21/25. If you have any questions, please let me know (Karyl).