

# OCC Newsletter

October 2022

## Good-bye To Scott Peters

On October 31, my friend and OCC Golf Course Superintendent Scott Peters will officially retire. Scott started at OCC in 2000, replacing Alan Tomlinson. Scott was previously the Superintendent at Radisson Golf Club.

I got to work with Scott for years as a member of the Greens Committee and as Greens Chairman. And when I had no official role, Scott would always take the time to answer my questions or listen to my suggestions. As a very long time member of Oswego CC, there was no one who cares as much about our golf course as Scott Peters. He is a perfectionist when it comes to the condition of our course!

Before Scott got here, Oswego Country Club was in decent condition, with fairways and greens that were ok, but not as good as the higher end courses in CNY. But year after year, conditions here have improved to a point where I can honestly say that OCC is one of the best conditioned golf courses in Central New York, and probably beyond. I have played a lot of golf all around CNY and I haven't found any courses, including the expensive courses that have fairway and greens consistently equal to ours! And Scott has worked this magic with a golf course budget and staff much smaller than, say, Bellevue or Onondaga CC. These courses spend two to three to four times more to maintain their golf courses than we do here in Oswego, but Scott and his crew get the same and sometimes better results for much less money.

Scott is great when it comes to everyday things like daily staffing of the crew, short term and long term planning, ordering supplies, doing paper work required by the government, daily inspection of the course to see what needs to be done or if there problem needs attending to or that can be avoided. Much of Scott's job is dictated by the weather - too much rain, not enough rain, wind, and humidity. All of these factors must be taken into consideration on a daily and sometimes hourly basis. Scott is always on top of this.

As golfers, we members always wanted the golf course open as much as possible. And Scott has always been golfer friendly in that regard. Many older member of OCC can remember that years ago, the golf course wasn't opened in the spring until April at the earliest.

Over his tenure, Scott has opened the course for play in February and March, when conditions allowed, and he has kept it open into November and December for those of us crazy enough to be out there.

Scott will tell you that OCC is very lucky to have Neal Pitcher as Assistant Superintendent. Scott is great at what he does and Neal is great at maintaining the equipment, the irrigation system, and electrical system on *Continued on page 2*



**610 West First Street, Oswego, NY 13126**

Business Office Phone: 315-343-1941 / Fax: 315-343-6539

Pro Shop Phone: 315-343-1941 (golf season only)

Office E-mail: [Office@oswegocountryclub.com](mailto:Office@oswegocountryclub.com)

Pro Shop E-mail: [hoagiepro@yahoo.com](mailto:hoagiepro@yahoo.com)

the course. Neal will make our new superintendent, Matt Bednarski's job easier with all the knowledge and expertise Neal can pass along. And having become friends with Matt, and seeing his work ethic since he started here in August, I can tell you that Scott is leaving OCC in good hands. Matt will do a great job in continuing the excellence that Scott brought to our golf course.

We members of Oswego Country Club want to thank Scott for his dedication and hard work to making our golf course one of the best in Central New York. We hope you enjoy your retirement and have good luck hunting! And now that you have the time, come back and play some golf with us!!

**Mark Mayo**



## President's Message...

Hi All-

The feeling of fall is in the air with the lower temperatures, graying sky, apples on the back 9 and leaves beginning to turn color, but there is plenty of fall golf left to be played!!

What's next for #9:

- Letting the green grow-in.
- Letting the rough sod root into the sub-soil.
- Adding fairway sod to the run-up in front of the green and a chipping area to the back left of the green. We anticipate this being completed during the week of October 3. These two remaining areas will be maintained at a fairway level and require a different sod than the rough type that has already been installed.
- The bunker on the roadside of 9 still needs to have the sod completed in it and will be done at the same time the run-up sod is installed – this will be rough sod like the other bunker. We held off on completing this bunker to save on the shipping cost of the small amount of sod it will take complete the bunker. The shipping fee is the same regardless of whether the truck is full or not and the remaining rough sod for the bunker and fairway run-up sod can all be delivered on the same truck. We decided to use the same crew to install the remaining sod areas based on the difficulty of the task and the limited number of volunteers we had available. We appreciate those who volunteered to help but the job appeared too big to cut our own sod, move it and install it.
- Many people ask when the sand will go in the bunkers - speaking with Matt, the sand may not be added until the ground freezes so the sand can be dumped into the bunker without causing damage to the new rough sod surrounding the bunkers.
- It may be tempting to walk on the new sod or the green to get a closer look, but please don't, the roots are very susceptible to damage at this stage and we need to keep traffic off of it. The rough is being cut using a walk behind mower so as not to risk damaging the roots.

With the heavy rains we have received of late, the ground has been pretty soft – please remember to fix ball marks on the green – yours as well as others and replace your divots.

What's left for this year?

- More golf!
- The budget is being developed for 2023
- The annual meeting in November including election of Board members and officers
- The formal handoff from Scott Peters to Matt Bednarski
- The re-negotiating of our food service/bar contract with Tammy

**This October is a monumental month for OCC and Scott Peters our long-term Greens Superintendent.** Scott will be retiring after ~23 years of service to our Club and leaves the course in wonderful condition and one of the premier facilities in Central NY. Scott will still be a member of the club he has served so well, and we hope to see him on the course playing frequently and on the "porch" with the rest of the committee solving any problems posed to them. On behalf of the membership I say thankyou Scott for all you have accomplished to make this course such a wonderful place to play the game!

Please take the opportunity to stop in and see Scott, wish him well and thank him for his many years of service to the OCC making it one of the finest conditioned courses in the area.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the course – hit them long and straight!!

**Pete Cullinan, President**

**315-591-6103 (c)**

## OCC 2021-22 Board of Directors

<b>Peter Cullinan</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Ben Frary</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>
<b>Ken Cherchio</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>
<b>Marilyn Magner</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Jennifer Boalt</b>	<b>Recording Secretary</b>
<b>Mark Brunschweiler</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>William Crist</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Chelsea Givo</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Matt Smith</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Elizabeth Dorsey</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Zachary Farden</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Kevin Dorsey</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Rich Godden</b>	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Tammy Murphy</b>	<b>Restaurant and Bar</b>
<b>Matt Bednarski</b>	<b>Grounds Superintendent</b>
<b>Michael Hogan</b>	<b>Golf Professional</b>



## Century Tavern and 1897 Dining Room Hours

Bar:

**11am to Close Everyday**

Dining:

**Lunches: Daily 11am to 3**

**Dinner: Tuesday-Friday**

**5pm to 9**

**Or last cart in!**



## From the Business Office...

There are 3 ways to contact the business office:

- You may call 315-343-1941 and leave a voicemail
- Email us at: [Office@oswegocountryclub.com](mailto:Office@oswegocountryclub.com)
- Use the Member Portal on the OCC website:

On the homepage find the "Contact Us"  
tab and scroll down

### 2022 Committee Chairs

Facilities: Mark Brunschweiger

Golf: Ben Frary

Greens: Ken Cherchio

Handicap: Rich Godden

Junior Golf : Liz Dorsey

House: Liz Dorsey

Long Range Planning: Dan Dorsey, Jr.

Membership: Shawn Baldwin

Social:

Insurance: Kevin Dorsey

Budget: Matt Smith

Bylaws/Constitution: Bill Crist



**Are you moving? Changing categories for membership? Taking a leave of absence?  
Please contact the business office—  
These changes in status need to be filed with us  
by October 31st.**

## The Course...

What a change in the weather pattern Oswego has seen in the last month! We were hoping for rain mid way through August and Mother Nature delivered. Temperatures have changed, daylight has reduced by about three minutes per day throughout September, and with that we have started to see some of our more stressed trees begin to change color and lose leaves. Fall is on the horizon and our crew has been busy trying to keep ahead of all of these changes. With the increased rainfall has come a flush of growth in our greens, tees, fairways, and roughs. Growth suppressants have been applied to the greens and fairways to try to stay ahead of this growth increase, but in our roughs the crew has been busy trying to keep ahead, while not causing damage in wet conditions.

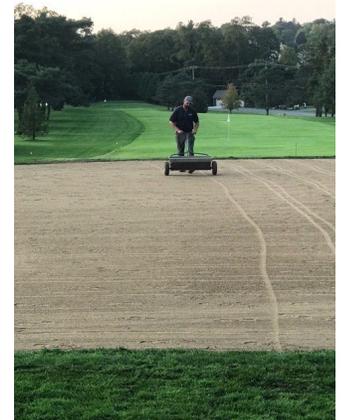
One of the positive benefits of the recent weather that we have had can be seen from the club house. Our ninth green is green! The added moisture and temperatures that we have been experiencing have been wonderful for bent grass germination and we are growing in better than I could have expected. There were a few gaps in our seeding, but those areas have been over seeded and fertilized for the second time, and are right on schedule. The only setback that we have had on the ninth green is that all of the sod suppliers within a few hundred miles of us had exhausted their supplies and we had to wait for their fields to reach maturity before the sod could be harvested and delivered to us. This will not set back our opening at all and will work out great for us in the long run. The area in nine approach was wetter than usual this past month as well. Not because of the green project but because of a broken irrigation line. When installed, the irrigation system implemented a new piece of technology for the time, a baked enamel fitting that was supposed to never leak or wear down. I believe Neal has replaced about 12 of them over the last few years, including this one, and another on the sixteenth approach this month. Ouch.

Our greens and fairways both underwent aeration this month as well. Aeration is also known as venting or aerification, or "that awful thing that golf course superintendents do that ruins the greens for a week." It is arguably the most important cultural practice that we go through in a year and can reduce compaction, increase water and nutrient uptake in the plant, improve root growth, reduce thatch and therefore disease, etc. Our greens aeration went flawlessly and we saw a fairly quick recovery. Our fairway aeration went not so flawlessly, but regardless we recovered well and will see increased performance and health through the rest of the year.

We removed two large trees over the last month which had both created issues with player safety. One was a shagbark hickory which was located between the sixth and seventh holes, and the other was a large cherry tree that was located next to the eleventh tee box. Both of these trees are prone to basal rot, and had rotted at their bases and been partially blown over in the wind and created unsafe playing conditions. Keeping on the player safety trend we also cleaned up the walking path between the sixteenth hole and the bathhouse on fifteen. Branches were trimmed back, the worst roots were removed, and a layer of crushed stone was laid down to even out remaining flaws and make a more accessible path for our walkers.

Overall September was a very busy month for us on the maintenance crew. We underwent a lot of variation in weather conditions, maintenance practices, and new procedures. To our maintenance crew who is willing to put in the extra hours when necessary and to the members who volunteer their time to help our operation run smoothly I would like to say thank you. Every filled divot, repaired ball mark, and raked bunker is another step towards a richer experience for everyone who plays at OCC.

**Matthew Bednarski**  
**Oswego Country Club G.C. Superintendent**





**A FRIENDLY REMINDER FOR VARIOUS CHANGES OF STATUS**

GOT MARRIED? GOT DIVORCED? HAD A CHILD?  
WISH TO ADD A DOMESTIC PARTNER?

**ALL REQUESTS FOR:**

- RESIGNATIONS
- LEAVES OF ABSENCE
- STATUS CHANGES
  - MOVING?

**WE NEED TO KNOW AND HAVE THE PROPER FORM  
TO BE IN THE OFFICE ON OR BY  
OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> 2022  
IN ORDER TO HANDLE THE BILLING CORRECTLY**

**\*\*FOR THE 2023 GOLFING SEASON\*\***

**\*\*NOVEMBER 1, 2022\*\***

**This is the beginning of our fiscal year**

Please call, email or stop by THE CLUB OFFICE for the proper form.

(315) 343-1941 Ext. 4

## Facilities...

It's hard to believe we have arrived at the last month of the regular golf season. The Hummingbirds have migrated south, the squirrels are gathering their nuts and the deer are feasting on our abundance of apples. Though we had a fair share of rain in September it's amazing to watch the transformation of the new 9<sup>th</sup> green as it gets greener by the day. Thanks to Matt, Scott and all the others who oversaw this project. Additionally, I would like to thank the ladies and men who put so much time in this summer running the golf leagues, your efforts made it enjoyable for all.

### **Maintenance activities performed during September include:**

- Installed a new shelving unit in the cart barn for the sand/seed bottles
- Installed a new sump pump in the Locker Room basement
- Unclogged the kitchen dishwasher drain line
- The lock mechanism to the Club House front door was repaired
- Repaired the sod rakes that are used at the golf range

Now that the season is winding down, I encourage our members to stay active in the off season. There will be the Dart league, Trivia night and other events put on by the social committee, along with some fine dining from the kitchen. If there is enough interest, and the weather cooperates, I would like to bring my telescope (Meade 12" LX200 GPS SCT) to the club and do an astronomy night for kids and adults.

As always, please contact me with any suggestions or concerns.

Thank you,

Mark G. Brunschweiler

[mbrunsc@yahoo.com](mailto:mbrunsc@yahoo.com)

**Mark G. Brunschweiler**  
**Facilities Chair**  
[mbrunsc@yahoo.com](mailto:mbrunsc@yahoo.com)





## Budget Committee...

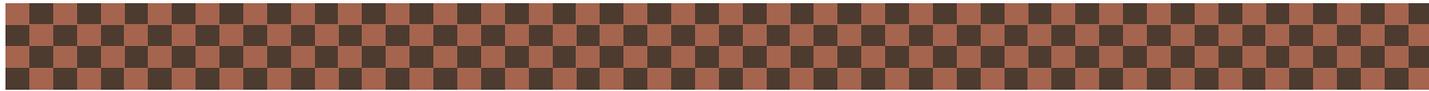
The expense to revenue ratio continues to be a strong indicator of our fiscal standing. This will help us to improve our facilities in the future and maintain one of the best courses in CNY.

The budget committee has been working on the 2023 budget, we are finalizing the budget and we will present it to the board at the October meeting, with final membership approval at the annual meeting in November. Thank you everyone who stepped forward to volunteer your time on this committee.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of OCC, and a special thank you to everyone who has gone out and recruited new members.

**Ken Cherchio**

**Kcherchi@twcny.rr.com**



## On the Proside...

Welcome to October. Fall golf is some of the most beautiful golf of the year. With fall golf comes shortened days, range tee reincarnation and plenty of open tee times.

Remember all credit is void end of day October 21st. There are currently sales happening in the pro shop. Do all of your Christmas shopping now. Due to my extremely busy winter season I currently have no plan for a holiday sale. We have shirts starting at \$20. Take \$5 off every shirt or dozen balls paid in cash. All Clique apparel will remain at 30% off until the October 21st credit dead date. We are stocked in both Womenswear and Menswear for these sale prices. Get those logo gifts now before stock is depleted.

Come join us for some great golf, beautiful colors and fall weather. We will be here waiting for you.

Hoagie and Connor



Michael (Hoagie) Hogan  
OCC Head PGA Professional  
Hoagiepro@yahoo.com  
315-730-4797

## Greens Committee...

The 9<sup>th</sup> green project has progressed to the point that the grass is growing on the green and soon the sand will be placed in the bunkers. A great job was done coordinating this project by Dan Dorsey, Scott Peters, Matt Bednarski, Neal Pitcher and Barry Jordan. Thank you all for your time and hard work, with the help of mother nature, we will have an amazing green to play on in early 2023!

The course and greens are very soft due to all the rain the past couple of weeks, it is imperative we take the time to repair our divots on the tee boxes and in the fairways and repair ball marks on the green. (this doesn't mean tapping them down with your putter please take the time and use a ball mark tool). Fix yours and maybe a couple others. Thank you in advance for taking pride in the course and helping to maintain it in the best condition possible. A few minutes in this effort makes a big difference.

**Ken Cherchio**



## Marketing and Membership...

The membership numbers that we have attained for fiscal year 2022 are very impressive for our club. We ended fiscal year 2021 with 263 golfing members and 311 total memberships, so far this year we have 282 golfing members and 341 total memberships. We already have 2 new memberships for fiscal year 2023! Keep telling family and friends what a great golf course we have, and these numbers will continue to climb!

Soon we will be sending out an e-mail to businesses that want to have their company logo on our website. If you or someone you know wishes to have their logo on our website please contact me with their information.

Thank you,

**Ken Cherchio**

**Kcherchi@twcny.rr.com**



<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>CHAIRPERSON (Notes)</u>
Apr-2	Sat	8:00-12:00	Volunteer Clean-up Day	Ken Cherchio/Scott Peters
Apr-23	Sat	11:30-1:30 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	SUNY NCAA Tournament	Mike Howard
Apr-24	Sun	11:00-1:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	SUNY NCAA Tournament	Mike Howard
May-2	Mon	3:30 front side shotgun	OHS Golf Match	Dan Rose
May-3	Tue	8:30 mod. shotgun	Women's 18-hole League begins	Jennifer Boalt
May-3	Tue	3:00-5:30 alternating sides	Men's Twilight League begins	Paul Osetek/Larry Heintz
May-4	Wed	9:00-11:30 alternating sides	Women's Early League begins (9)	Marilyn Magner
May-4	Wed	3:00-5:30 alternating sides	Men's Twilight League begins	Dave Johnson
May-9	Mon	Course closed until 4:00	Greens Aerification	Scott Peters
May-10	Tue	Course closed if needed	Contingency Aerification Day	Scott Peters
May-12	Thu	3:00-5:30 alternating sides	Women's Twilight League begins	Julie Sterio/Vicki Furlong
May-14	Sat	9:00 shotgun	Men's Draft Tournament	Proshop
Jun-1	Wed	9:00-11:30 alternating sides	Women's 9-hole League begins	Marilyn Magner
June-5	Sun	1:00 shotgun	Pro-Member	Pro Shop
Jun-6	Mon	8:00-2:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Oswego Health Tournament	Pete Cullinan/Michele Hourigan
Jun-13	Mon	10:00 Shotgun	Oswego-Fulton Chamber Tourney	Sarah Broadwell
Jun-17	Fri	5:00 shotgun	Couples League/Wine and Dine	Social Committee
Jun-27	Mon	1:00 shotgun	Summer Scramble/Stag Day	Pro Shop (format TBD)
Jul-7	Thu	9:30-11:00 both sides	Junior League begins	Liz Dorsey
Jul-9	Sat	1:00 shotgun	Member-Member	Ken Cherchio/DJ/Blum
Jul-10	Sun	9:00 shotgun	Member-Member	Ken Cherchio/DJ/Blum
Jul-11	Mon	8:00-2:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	United Way Event	Lexi Wallace/Kate Davis Pitsley
Jul-22	Fri	5:00 shotgun	Couples League/Wine and Dine	Social Committee
Jul-23	Sat	12:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Jr. Club Championship	Pro Shop
Jul-25	Mon	11:30 shotgun	Will Barclay Event	Stephanie Herrick
Jul-26	Tues	8:30 modified shotgun	Women's Formal M-G	Jennifer Boalt/Nancy Patka
Jul-31	Sun	2:00 shotgun	Couples Member Guest	Social Committee/M. Lloyd
Aug-3	Wed	9:00-12:00 both sides	Women's 9-Hole M-G	Marilyn Magner/Liz Dorsey
Aug-5	Fri	9:30 shotgun	Men's Member-Guest	D. Dorsey, Jr.
Aug-6	Sat	10:00 shotgun	Men's Member-Guest	D. Dorsey, Jr.
Aug-7	Sun	9:00 shotgun	Men's Member-Guest	D. Dorsey, Jr.
Aug-13	Sat	10:00-11:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Sr. Men's Club Championship	Pro Shop
Aug-13	Sat	12:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Jr. Club Championship Semi-Final	Pro Shop
Aug-14	Sun	10:00-11:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Sr. Men's Club Championship	Pro Shop (times to be confirmed)
Aug-14	Sun	12:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Jr. Club Championship Final	Pro Shop (times to be confirmed)
Aug-16	Tue	8:30 shotgun	Women's Informal 18-Hole M-G	Jennifer Boalt
Aug-18	Thu	9:00 shotgun	Senior Men's Member Guest	PK
Aug-19	Fri	5:00 shotgun	Cptn & Crew/Alt Shot Coed Event	Social Committee
Aug-20	Sat	1:00 modified shotgun	Adult-Child Tournament	Pro Shop
Aug-20	Sat	6:00 PM	125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	Pro Shop
Aug-26	Fri	8:15 PM shotgun	Glow Ball Social Event	Social Committee
Aug-27	Sat	8:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Women's Club Champ.	Pro Shop
Aug-27	Sat	10:00-11:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Men's Club Champ.	Pro Shop
Aug-28	Sun	8:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Women's Club Champ.	Pro Shop
Aug-28	Sun	10:00-11:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Men's Club Champ.	Pro Shop
Aug-31	Wed	8:30 shotgun	SWDGA Event	Deana Masuicca
Sep-6	Tue	Course closed until 4:00	Greens Aerification	Scott Peters

Sep-7	Wed	Course closed if needed	Contingency Aerification Day	Scott Peters
Sep-12	Mon	All day	Fairway Aerification	Scott Peters
Sep-13	Tue	As required	Fairway Aerification	Scott Peters
Sep-17	Sat	1:00 shotgun	Buc Boosters Event	Sean Callen
Sep-19	Mon	TBD	Profound Outside Event	Joyl Clance
Sep-24	Sat	11:30-1:30 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	SUNY Fall Invitational	Mike Howard
Sep-25	Sun	11:00-1:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	SUNY Fall Invitational	Mike Howard
Oct-1	Sat	10:00-10:00 1 <sup>st</sup> tee	Stableford Tournament	PK (time and format TBD)
Oct-11	Tue	Early morning	Back Nine Aerification	Scott Peters

**Possible Social Events**

Sep-10	Sat	2:00 shotgun front side	Par 3 Social Event/Pro Apprec.	Social Committee
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\*Tentative date, subject to change

