



Travelers Country Club On The Mississippi

A Seasonal Residential

Recreational Community

WHEELS NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2016

Presidents Report - September 2016

This is my last president's report and when I sat down to put it together, I realized I did not have a whole lot that will not be covered later in the meeting and we do not need redundancy. I do want to take this opportunity to thank the membership for the overwhelming support and the many kind words of appreciation, and "Thank You's" I have gotten for the job I was doing.

I am not going to stand up here and talk out of both sides of my mouth and tell you that being President has been a walk in the park every day. However, I can say without hesitation the positive aspects have far outweighed the negative ones. I also want to express my appreciation to Marty, Chuck, and to all of the office staff, even though I did not have much contact with the maintenance employees, when I needed them they were always right there to help. We as a park are lucky to have the paid personnel we have. So again, thank you very much to them and to all of you.

I am happy to tell you that Marty has worked out a new verbal three year agreement with Clean Cut Lawns that he felt very good about and is just waiting for the signed contract from them.

Marty will be installing some new lighting in the clubhouse next week. Thank you to Eric Gibson and Clarence Petron for doing some research on that for Marty.

We had a good turnout for the volunteer lunch along with some really good food. I did have feedback from several members thanking us for having it a few weeks earlier than usual this year and not interfering with the Vikings games.

Diana Martell, Board President

Park Manager Report – September 2016

What a great season we've had this year -- a lot of traditional and new activities and great weather for golf, swimming, pickleball and use of all our other facilities. *(You'll notice I'm ignoring the rain and mosquitoes.)*

I thank, and ask the entire membership to join me in thanking, the terrific Board of Directors we've had this season. And, like many members, I'm sorry to see Diana Martell leave, not only as a Director but also as our President. I think she's done a fantastic job!

As our season winds down, I also thank the current Board for renewing my contract and Marty's employment agreement. Having a quality manager like Marty on board makes my job so much easier.

TCCOM Custodian

Good news! We have a new (previous) part time custodian. Diane Tuchtenhagen's (Lot 225) life has settled back down to where she is once again able to focus on the duties at hand as TCCOM's custodian. Welcome back, Diane. And thanks to Deb McColgan for filling in during Diane's absence.

Winterizing Trailers

Compressors are available at the Clubhouse if you wish to blow out your trailer. Marty has already set them up to connect to your trailer hose and adjusted the pressure so you don't over pressurize the plumbing. Sign-up sheets are on the sign-up table, upper level, Clubhouse. There are also ideas for winterizing your trailer on our website, Member Tab, Park Communications.

Even if you're not blowing out your own trailer, when you have an idea as to when you are leaving the Park for the season, please let the Office know.

Park Blow Out and Closing

The morning of October 14 will be the last time this season you will have water at your trailers. Water is available at the Clubhouse. You may stay the night of October 15, however, after that, per MN law, no one can stay in the park overnight until April 15, 2017.

Winter Golf Cart Storage

If you've reserved a spot in the Activity Building to store your cart(s), please drop off the key(s) at the office when you are done using it for this season. That is what tells us it is OK to move your cart(s) into the building.

Committees

Members expect the TCCOM staff to be up and ready when each season begins on April 15. The same expectation often applies to Park operations. And, since our Park is run by volunteer committees, I encourage the 2016 chairpersons of the respective Standing Committees to schedule their first meeting for 2017 now – even if they won't be the chairperson in 2017. In the past, if a committee waits until the season begins before getting organized, it can be July before that committee is ready to do business.

Emails – Bulk, Office, Billing

As in the past, I will send out Bulk Emails on an as needed basis during the off-season. Therefore, please ensure we have your current email address (as well as any other address or phone number updates.)

In the spring, we hear from some members who say they didn't get my bulk emails. However, they do get my individual emails. Individual emails are sent via Gmail. Bulk emails are sent via a bulk email provider (since Gmail won't allow bulk emails anymore). And, as email providers continually upgrade their software to screen for spam, phishing, etc., it is possible your email provider has made an upgrade that now screens TCCOM's bulk emails. If you're not receiving my bulk emails, check your spam folder. If the email is there, open it up and indicate you want to receive these emails. (Every provider's navigation is a little different so I can't tell you how to specifically do that with your email provider.)

And, don't forget Annual Dues invoices are sent via email (if on file) near the beginning of 2017. So if we have the wrong email address, you won't get your bill.

Emails and phone messages are checked once a day during the off season, so response time may be just a little longer than during the season.

Food Donations

If you have non-perishable canned or dry food left over when you leave for the season and have no place to get rid of it (other than throwing it in the trash), we have a large blue bin in the lower level of the Clubhouse. Collections are taken to a food donation center after the Park closes.



CLT Garden Plots

As you leave for the season, please clean up your garden plot in the Clear Lake Township park area. If you still have the plot number stake and flags, please return those to the office. There is a cost if the Park needs to clean up your plot.

Also, we are taking reservations at the Office for the 2017 season. The plots are approximately 7' X 16' and are located in the NW corner of the Clear Lake Township Park near our dumpsters. This season we had 21 reservations. We may be able to take a few more in 2017. *(If you had a plot this season, but don't want it next season, please let us know that too. Thanks.)*

Erken's Water Softeners

If you have an Erken's water softener, please return it to the Clubhouse garage before you leave for the season or by 4 PM October 13. Erken's will pick up the tanks around October 14 and recharge them so they are ready for next season.

We are also taking water softener reservations at the Office for the 2017 season. As before, water softeners are picked up at and returned to the Clubhouse. The price will again be \$98 per tank as in 2016.

Beaudry Oil

Beaudry Oil bulk fills tanks only. If you signed up with Beaudry Oil but only have 20 or 30 pound tanks, they cannot bulk fill those small tanks. You will either have to contact Beaudry Oil (Matt Lindwall 763-633-2602) for the install of a large tank or exchange your tank(s) as you would any grill tank at Menards, Home Depot, etc.



End of Season Park Security Check

A number of years ago, I implemented an End of Season Park Security Check to help reassure members their properties were safe and secure for the off-season. Over the years, I've noticed that those who believe in personal and park security consistently lock their personal property and do not need reminding. Therefore, even though I will not be doing an End of Season Security Check this year, as in the past, please be assured that Marty will continue to randomly check the Park throughout the off-season.

2017 Check-In Procedure

Next season, in addition to requiring all funds due TCCOM be paid before receiving your annual golf stickers, we will also check golf carts to ensure you have numbers front and back per your Rules & Regulations. If you have two golf carts, please be sure to drive both to the Clubhouse so you can get your golf stickers.

Have a great winter! See you in 2017. *(Park opens April 15, 2017.)*

Chuck McColgan, Park Manager

Maintenance Manager's Report

The maintenance department has aerated the golf greens. Thanks to all of the volunteers who turned out to help pick up the aeration plugs.

The Sherburne County Planning and Zoning Administration has notified TCCOM that it has been reviewing septic system compliance for facilities like ours. This notice indicates that a Certificate of Compliance for all twenty two of our septic systems is required to obtain a building permit. In response, the maintenance department is in the process of hiring and scheduling a certified inspector to conduct these inspections just after the park closes this October 15. We will know at that time if we need to perform any necessary repairs or if we pass all the inspections. It is my belief that all of our septic systems are in good working order and should pass the inspections. This new regulation requires TCCOM to re-certify all our septic systems every ten years.

The maintenance department, with approval from the President and BOD, has decided to start treating many of our trees that have been suffering from Burr Oak Blight and Oak Wilt. We will also be treating all of our Ash trees for Emerald Ash Borer. The treatments will begin this spring when the leaves on the trees have filled out, sometime in May. It has been determined, from several university studies, that treating trees with this injection method, is much more cost effective than removing and replacing the trees.

Thank you all and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Marty Abel, Maintenance & Golf Course Manager

Clubhouse Air Conditioning

It was reported by Marty Abel, Golf Course and Maintenance Manager at the Thursday, September 8, 2016, management meeting that one of the Clubhouse AC compressors was down, and a bid was coming in with respect to its repair or replacement.

The bid came in on Friday, September 9, 2016, via email to Marty and during discussions it was determined that the compressor was too old to be economically repaired and should be replaced. In addition, it was recommended by the vendor that since both compressors are the same age, it would be more economical to replace them both at the same time (\$200 savings) instead of waiting for price increases on the 2nd compressor in the future. It was further determined it was more economical to do the install in 2016 instead of waiting for price increases in 2017.

The email was forwarded to President, Diana Martell, and Treasurer, Dennis Oberloh on September 9, 2016. Diana, in turn, forwarded it to the Vice President, Jim Beaudette to determine if a BOD vote was needed. (Bid was for \$7160.00 to be paid out of Reserves since it is replacement of capital equipment.) Initially it was thought the threshold for a vote was \$10,000. It was not until Monday, September 12, 2016, that it was determined a vote of the Board was needed since this was not a budgeted item. Newly elected President, Jim Beaudette, therefore sent out an electronic ballot, via the Park Manager, to the Directors for a vote to fix the air conditioning in the Clubhouse. The result of the vote was as follows (in the order they came in):

- Dennis Oberloh -- Yes
- Rick Soderstrom -- No
- Rick Caouette -- Yes
- Jim Beaudette -- Yes
- Duane Olson -- Yes
- Duffy Hansen -- Yes
- Faye Petron -- No

Due to a Director's insistence on a physical vote, a Special Meeting of the BOD was called for Sunday, September 18, 2016, at 1 PM. The Directors present at the Special Meeting of the Board were Duane Olson, acting president, Dennis Oberloh, Rick Caouette, Duffy Hanson, and Faye Petron. Absent from the meeting were Jim Beaudette and Rick Soderstrom.

Faye Petron attended the meeting for the sole purpose of objecting to the meeting. In accordance with TCCOM's Bylaws Article V, Section 15, her objection was so noted by the Acting President, and she was dismissed from the Board meeting as a Director. A quorum was reestablished and the balance of the Directors, by attending the meeting, thereby waived the notice of said meeting (also per TCCOM's Bylaws -- Article V, Section 15.)

A physical vote to authorize the expense for new Clubhouse ACs (same as the electronic vote) was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Beaudette, President

Buildings and Grounds Report

As the season comes to a close, try to finish up on projects requiring a TCCOM work permit. All permits are subject to a final inspection, and the Building and Grounds committee will need time to get these inspections completed. Any uncompleted projects will require renewal of your permit in 2017.

Safe travels and have a great off season!

Rick Caouette, Buildings and Grounds Liaison



Board Officers for 2017

Here are the newly elected board officers for the new year:

President – Jim Beaudette

Vice president – Duane Olson

Secretary – Rick Caouette

Treasurer – Dennis Oberloh

Liaison Positions

Jim Beaudette – Marketing, Personnel/Nominating

Duane Olson – Safety/Security, Bylaws/Rules/Reg/Policy/Procedures

Dennis Oberloh – Finance/Review, Buildings and Grounds Common Areas

Rick Soderstrom – Golf

Rick Caouette – Buildings and Grounds Residential, Communications

Faye Petron – Pool

Duffy Hanson - Activities

From the Quilters

The winners of the quilt raffle that were drawn after Board meeting were:

Diane Tuchtenhagen Lot 225 - wall hanging

Cheryl Martin Lot 238 - quilt

Faye Clausen Lot 714 - Christmas tree

Theresa Oberloh Lot 223 - Table topper

Thanks to everyone who purchased tickets and for the donation of the quilts by Jo Price, pieced by her mother, Toni Price-Spreeman, and finished by the TCCOM Quilters.

Loralee Renelt



2016 Corn Feed Recap

Once again the annual corn feed put on by the lower 100-200 rows was a big success. More than 50 volunteers (too many to name) helped husk, cook and serve more than 864 ears of corn and 300 burgers. It was a huge task but they made it hum. Their cheerful dispositions and willingness to help wherever needed made the experience fun. It really was an opportunity to get to know each other better and strengthen friendships. I cannot express how grateful and proud I am of them. They're the "bomb-bomb".

Sharon Hansen

Give 'n Take Update

On September 2, Diane Caouette and Mary Greve made a project presentation to the Board of Directors for the construction of a new, larger building to house Give 'n Take. The board gave its approval contingent on having the necessary funds in place before construction begins.

Because of various fund-raising events and donations we have over \$4,000 in the building fund, towards an estimated \$8,000 - \$10,000 needed. Thank you! And a very special thank you goes to a TCCOM member who made a stunning \$1,000 donation! This person said, "I have been blessed and I wanted to share. And I want to see this new building go up sooner rather than later!" How awesome is that!!

Things are winding down for this season, but we will be continuing our fund-raising in the coming year, one of these being a TCCOM cookbook. Information on this will be forthcoming.

The last day for Give 'n Take for 2016 is Saturday, October 1. Have a safe and happy winter!

Dianne Caouette and Mary Greve



Elf House

For 16 years we have housed our TCCOM ELF, along the 100 row/river side. Over those years we have provided our TCCOM children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren with more than 4800 notes to take with them. We hope it brought as many smiles and conversations with your grands as much as it did our grands. Now that our grands are in middle and high school, we are retiring our idea of the ELF HOUSE. We will gladly donate our ELF door and signs to TCCOM (see JaniRae in the office) in hopes that someone else will take on this fun idea. Thank you for 16 fun ELF years!

Jerry and Nancy Zembal, Lot #120

From the Editors

Thank you to all who contributed to this edition of the Wheels. This is the last edition of the season, and publication will resume next spring. We appreciate the feedback we received after the new format last month and will continue to work on incorporating new design and content in future editions. Safe travels, have a great winter, and we look forward to seeing everyone next spring.

Gail Alex and Marge Marschel