



Travelers Country Club On The Mississippi

*A Seasonal Residential
Recreational Community*

Wheels Newsletter – Sept 2017

President's Report – BOD Meeting, September 2017

A big thank you to all our volunteer members who contributed to making TCCOM such a great place to be this summer. A special thanks to the committee chairs, the paid staff who are all TCCOM members, to JaniRae, Marty and Chuck for another year of TCCOM being so well managed. I also want to thank the BOD members and their spouses for all the time, effort and support for this season. A special thanks to Faye Petron and Rick Caouette who are leaving the BOD and a warm welcome to Sally Pawlak and Dave Cole who are signing on for the next 3 years.

I am hoping that all our members will have a great winter season and enjoy themselves. Safe travel to all. Be safe, have fun and stay healthy.

See you next spring.

Jim Beaudette, President

Park Manager's Report – BOD Meeting, September 2017

As another season draws to a close, I thank all the volunteers who kept our park looking so good, the committee members who kept our park organized and enabled us to keep moving forward, and the Directors who, at times, were willing to throw "themselves in front of the bus", in order to provide the professional leadership our park needs and enjoys.

I also thank the employees of TCCOM – administration and maintenance. Without their support, teamwork, and input, managing this Park in a professional way would be impossible.

Office Assistant - 2018

As you may know, Shirley and Dave Hansen have sold their unit at TCCOM. Shirley will complete this season as one of our part time Office Assistants, but we need a new Assistant for the 2018 season. The position requires good people skills, multitasking, and schedule flexibility. The Office Assistant generally works two days per week and every third weekend. However, this can change as your or other administration staff schedules change. If interested, please inquire at the Office or complete the Job Application on our website, Member Tab, Park Communications link. A copy of the job description can also be found there.

Wheels

Marge Marschel, Lot 904, has done an excellent job this season leading the Communications committee to produce our Wheels publication. As many may know, she and Wayne are selling their TCCOM property. Marge has indicated she will continue to produce Wheels until they sell; however, a new publisher is needed. If interested in learning more about this volunteer position, please let me know. I'm sure Marge will help train you before she leaves this season.

Boat Landing Area

At the 9/1/17 Board Workshop and affirmed at today's Board meeting, the BOD approved a Policy and Procedure for boat storage at the Boat Landing. The boat lots will be set up during the off season so if you have a boat stored in the Boat Landing area, please notify the office, and ensure that you have a current boat license. Copies of the Policy and Procedure are available at the office.

Beaudry Oil LP Gas

Beaudry Oil provided me with copy pertaining to issues some members encountered with the fall fill. They are still honing their procedures with respect to servicing a park like ours versus their standard residential customer.

The smell of propane throughout the park:

- On the days of delivery in the park there will be a smell of propane throughout the park. Part of the delivery process requires opening the "fixed maximum liquid level" gauge as the tank is being filled. This process allows propane vapor to escape as liquid propane is filling the tank. Once this gauge starts to "spit" liquid propane, the tank is full. LP vapor that escapes the tank (such as in a pressure release due to rising outdoor temperatures) is not combustible like gasoline fumes. It is not an emergency situation – it is normal.

Emergency service calls:

- In the instance that there is a need for delivery or service after hours or on a weekend there may be extra fees incurred.

Delivery charge credit:

- During our last delivery process the driver had added a \$4.00 delivery charge on all of the deliveries the first day. These charges will be credited to your

account for use on the next delivery. I do apologize for the error; it will not happen again.



Garden Plots

If you would like a garden plot in 2018 please notify the Office prior to leaving the Park – especially if you want the same garden plot as in 2017. Plots are approximately 7' x 16' and located just east of the dumpsters in the Clear Lake Township Park. There is no cost for these plots as long as they are cleaned up at the end of the season.

Erkens Water Softeners

We are taking reservations in the Office for the 2018 season. I don't have costs yet but this season they were \$98 per tank. We bulk order tanks in April for pick-up by members after April 15th.

Extra Food at the End of Season

We have put out the large blue barrel in the lower level of the Clubhouse by the puzzles for sealed dry foods, canned goods, and liquids. There is a separate box for unsealed dry food containers. However, the inner containers must be sealed. (i.e. an opened box of saltines with the inner individual packages is still sealed.)



- Water Softeners -- Prior to leaving the Park for the season, please return your water softener to the Clubhouse and ensure the fittings are attached (and not on your hose).
- Blow-Out Compressors -- We have two compressors to blow out your trailers. The sign-up sheet is on the sign-up table in the upper level of the Clubhouse. Please plan ahead.
- Garden Plots – Please clean off your garden plot prior to leaving for the season and return lot # stakes and flags to the Office. *Do not put organics in household trash. They go in the temporary leaf pile.*
- Shareholder Packets – Please pick up your packet with Bylaws and Rules updates at the Office prior to leaving for the season. Please return the completed Shareholder Information Sheet to the Office prior leaving.
- Golf Cart Driving Age -- A person 15 to 18 with a driver's license may drive on their own. Drivers over 18, even without a license, may continue to drive on their own. A person age 15 to 18 with a driver's learner permit may drive a golf cart in the Park with an adult over 18 or a person with a driver's license in the passenger's seat.

- Park Water Blow-Out is October 13th. Shareholders may stay in the Park overnight until the morning of October 16, 2017. You may visit the Park anytime during the off-season (don't forget your gate key). *However, you cannot stay overnight between October 16, 2017 and April 14, 2018.*
- Trailer Winterization – If you do not have someone doing the blow-out for you, we have ideas for winterizing your trailer on our website, Member Tab, Park Communications link.
- Boats & Trailers – may be stored on your driveway during the off season (October 16 to April 14). *They cannot be put on your residential lot prior to October 13th and must be removed no later than April 17th.* During the season they must be kept on your outside storage lot or off site.

Soft Water

Over the past few years the Office has coordinated the bulk purchase of seasonal water softeners for the members – first Culligan, then Erkens. We've had mixed reviews with both softeners. For most the softeners last all season, for others they run out early -- in some cases within two months. Therefore, I've been doing additional research on possible solutions to the problem of inconsistent performance. With help from Greg Schelin, Lot 103, I've come up with two possible solutions for those dissatisfied with the current program.

A whole house Electronic Water Descaler --

The first half of this season I went without a water softener. And, as you might expect, I had rust build-up on the shower head and around the faucet handles and the water was hard.

About mid-July, I installed an Eddy Water Descaler Electronic Water Softener purchased from Amazon for under \$200.00. The following is a link to the website. I already had a GFI protected outlet by the trailer water intake so I didn't need an electrician to install the descaler.

https://www.amazon.com/Eddy-Water-Descaler-Electronic-Softener/dp/B003Z96GR4/ref=sr_1_1_sspa?ie=UTF8&qid=1505679729&sr=8-1-spons&keywords=eddy+electronic+water+descaler&psc=1

As of this writing, I haven't seen any of the rust re-appear and, though the water won't test as soft, it feels softer and suds more than the hard water.

A Mobile Water Softener (designed for RVs) –

Greg purchased a 16kgr H2O Mobile Soft Water TM Softener from HydroTec Systems Company, Inc. for about \$240.00. It is quite unique in that it uses only a small amount of regular table salt to interact with the resin and soften the water. This treats water that will actually test as soft water like any softener. This unit can also be winterized using the compressors at the Clubhouse. Greg has been pleased with the results. A link to this unit follows.

<http://www.purehts.com/Purehts2013/Sports-Softeners.html>

Both of these suppliers have videos you can watch and sales literature to read to give you more information. However, they are not the only manufacturers of descalers or RV water softeners. These are the two Greg and I tested based on our own research of the marketplace.

For those not 100% satisfied with the Office water softener program, I thought I'd include this information now instead of waiting until next season. That way you have the entire off-season to do your own research and evaluate what you want to do next year.

Have a great off-season and enjoy your winter! See you next year.

Chuck McColgan, Park Manager



Maintenance Report – BOD Meeting September 2017

I'd like to start with a big thanks to all our volunteers, the President, the Board of Directors, the Committee members and everyone who took an active role in contributing to our beautiful community!

- The water system shutdown will take place this year on October 13th. We are sorry if this conflicts with anyone's schedule; however, it is the only time we can get all of the rental equipment and personnel together for this job. Hopefully we won't have any freezing weather before then, let's keep our fingers crossed.
- Clean Cut Lawn Care will be in the park this fall to pick up leaves again. The vendor has promised to report any possible property damage directly to me so I can notify members personally. I met with them last fall and they have a suggestion for the members and that is to use larger and heavier landscape rock rather than light materials like wood chips, shredded wood or lava rock for your landscaping needs. They explained to me that they try very hard not to blow away or mess-up the landscaped areas on member lots but, with the large blowers they use, it is not possible to clean up all the leaves without disturbing the lighter landscape materials. Their recommendation is to use materials such as buff limestone, brine rock, granite, large river rock and riprap. Stay away from things like pea gravel, wood chips or shredded wood. Remember to rope off any areas that you don't want them to clear the leaves. The clubhouse has some red bailing twine that works well for this.
- The maintenance department will be doing some major tree trimming on the golf course this winter, thanks to great help from Ted Weiss, lot 277 and Ron

Fuller, lot 403. We will be widening fairways one thru six. This will help to speed up play and more importantly, improve your golf score.

- I would like to express my concern pertaining to golf etiquette, particularly as it involves golf course employees. It is a problem for the maintenance department when golfers start on any other hole except the 1st. We plan our job duties around the golf traffic and we are really good at timing our jobs with the golfers. It's a Park rule to start your golf game at the 1st tee. When a maintenance member is on the golf course, we will try our best to finish our job as quickly as possible. We, as much as anyone, realize the importance of keeping the "speed of play" as fast as possible, as to not keep anyone waiting. We're here to get our job done, not stand around and talk. *Please respect our time and please do not tee off at any golfer or maintenance personnel!*
- The golf course has been looking great this year thanks to all the paid employees and volunteers who spend many hours to make it as nice as it is. The large number of compliments is a testament to what a great job our volunteers and maintenance employees do for us. Thanks to all of you! *Just a couple of reminders...* It is the golfer's responsibility to replace or fill their divots, repair their ball marks, and pick up their broken tees. *Please, please inform your relatives and guests of our golf rules and regulations!*
- Jane Starr has done a fantastic job taking care of our pools this year! This is the first ever, that I can remember not having even one single day of cloudy water. That is truly amazing! Great job Jane! I'm very glad you plan on coming back next year.
- We are already seeing positive results from the tree injections we did this spring and it will be even more evident come next spring. I would like to personally thank the President and Board of Directors for approving this project. We will continue to treat the ash trees for Emerald Ash Borer on a rotating basis and to treat for Burr Oak Blight as needed.
- The septic system just east of the 1st green is scheduled for replacement starting on October 16th and will be completed within 7 to 14 days and will be ready for service. For those of you who are visiting the park, we are mandating that you stay away from the construction area for safety reasons. Also we do not want to disrupt the contractors in any way.
- The riverbank trimming project is in progress and will begin within the next few weeks. This will add to the beautification of the whole property. We are excited to finally have this project come to fruition.

This concludes the last maintenance report of 2017. We wish all of you the best winter season and look forward to seeing you all next spring.

Marty Abel, Maintenance and Golf Course Manager

Safety and Security Report – September 2017



A friendly hello to all park owners!

As the chairman of the Safety and Security Committee, I would like to thank you all for your understanding of the matters that were called to your attention this year. The following are a few of the matters that came out of our committee, some of which were presented to the board for approval.

- Change in policy regarding the age limits for driving a cart and transporting passengers
- TCCOM Rule enforcement of the speed limit throughout the park
- Increase in visibility by increasing our patrols of the park
- Warning of, and making members and guests aware of the danger surrounding the areas of the park that have eroded
- Visibility of oncoming traffic at various intersections and areas where an owner or guest may be coming to an intersection or backing out into the road from their driveway

With regards to the visibility concerns, at the last board work shop a proposal was made by our committee to the board pointing out various intersections that may have visibility problems. The suggestion from our committee was to present viable solutions to the board regarding these visibility issues. One solution is to mount convex mirrors across the streets from the intersection that would show the oncoming traffic coming from both directions. Another solution, where applicable, is to ask the park owners to look at areas on their properties that may present a visibility problem while backing out, or driving into and out of their driveways.

The board suggested that members of our committee drive through the park and find various areas that may present issues with visibilities. This has now been addressed and a report given back to our board for further consideration. As the Chairman of the Safety and Security committee, I would like all owners to look at any shrubs or bushes that may be blocking the visibility of oncoming traffic, or that may present a safety issue while they themselves may be backing out of their own driveways into oncoming traffic, and kindly keep their bushes trimmed or remove them entirely. Marty and his groundskeepers have done an excellent job trimming back common areas within the park that have presented visibility issues, and I hope the rest of us will be able to do the same. Thank you all very much in advance for your consideration of this very important matter.

Safe travels while commuting to your winter havens this fall!

Mark Deminsky, Safety and Security Chairman



Caddy Shack News

Wow! What a great season! As of September 8th, the caddy shack had collected \$8,123 in golf tickets. That is more than a thousand dollars over last year. This would not have been possible without the help of all the great volunteers who helped man the caddy shack and were rangers on the course. Thank you all so much. You are much appreciated. Although you are all indispensable, I want to say a special thank you to Jan Mino who was always there to help, or to take over when I could not be there. I hope you will be here next year to help out again. Let's recruit more people to join our ranks. It is a really fun two hours (yep, only two) and you get to meet and greet the wonderful people who live here in TCCOM and their guests.

Thank you!

Roz Daman

Activity Report

Thanks to everyone for participating in the chili cook-off over Labor Day weekend. We had 11 chefs bring a pot of chili for the contest. 105 people tasted and voted on their favorite chili. We gave trophies to the chefs with the most votes.

Gold - Rick Caouette

Silver - Dave Hansen

Bronze - Dennis Oberloh



Save the date: August 4 and 5, 2018, 40th anniversary party for TCCOM.
August 4 street dance in the evening; on August 5, program and dinner.

We are looking for someone from the 400 row to chair the taco dinner and someone from the 300 row to chair Sundaes on Saturday in 2018. Please contact me if you would be willing to volunteer.

Thanks to everyone who chaired, helped and participated in events that were held in 2017. Looking forward to another great year in 2018.

Theresa Oberloh, Activity Committee Chairperson



From the Editor:

Thank you to all the members who have contributed to this edition of **Wheels** and earlier editions this season. This is the last edition for 2017, and publication will resume next spring. Special thanks go to my proofers, Carol Shosted and my husband Wayne. Thanks, guys! You catch all the goofs and "oh-oh's".

As you may know Wayne and I have our unit at TCCOM for sale. I have told Chuck McColgan that I will continue as editor until we sell. If anyone is interested in taking over **Wheels**, please contact Chuck in the office. I'll be glad to help you in any way I can. I have enjoyed doing it for the past year.

Safe travels and have a great winter!

Marge Marschel

Summer 2017.....What is your Favorite TCCOM memory?



