

3800 West Country Club Boulevard, Stockton, CA 95204

#### March-April 2017

## Discover a "Pot of Gold" at Our Venerable Club; All Member Meeting is March 7

By Kevin Kauffman, President

Club Members and friends: Wow, what a winter we have experienced. It has seemed like a lifetime for many since the golf course was often closed due to too much rain and fallen trees that made play impossible. Sure, we deal with cart-path only conditions every year, but closing the course has been unheard of until this year. Take heart. Spring is coming.

Meanwhile, ski season has been strange due to the great amount of snow, and its variability in quality, but very memorable for all that have had the opportunity to visit the Sierras. My offer is still open for anyone wishing to do a day trip from the club. Just call Rich Howarth and it can be arranged.

Your Board of Directors' theme this newsletter is what a 'Pot of Gold' we have at our Club. Anyone looking for a premier country club experience in this region would feel they found the leprechaun when they visited our unique site on the San Joaquin River.

Management, staff, and your Board of Directors have made progress on many issues we've been asked to address. Please attend the all member meeting on Tuesday, March 7. You will be treated to some wonderful appetizers and hear the latest in the club's progress towards maintaining its premier status.

Our recently seated Board of

### **2017 Board of Directors**

Kevin Kauffman, President Jeff Tokunaga, Vice President Michael Butler, Treasurer Darlene Kelly, Secretary Mark Lewis, Director Steve Dunn, Director Nick Salvetti, Director Jason Harrel, Director Rick Goucher, Director

Directors "hit the ground running" and continues the progress of the previous elected boards. I asked and the new board agreed to let me continue one more year as president. Jeff Tokunaga was elected vice-President and Michael Butler and Darlene Kelly agreed to continue as treasurer and secretary, respectively.

At the all member meeting, staff will report on the condition of the course, plans for use of the course this summer, events at the club house, progress with membership, and an update on the club finances. I know how important these details are to our membership, and your ability to promote your club to family, friends, and neighbors. So please attend the March 7 meeting to keep yourself informed.

Consider telling everyone that you meet what a great club you belong to and

### Tree and Water Damage

Our maintenance team reported the constant winter storms have dumped an unprecedented amount of rain on the golf course, saturating the ground and causing trees to fall. So far the Stockton Golf and Country Club has lost 12 mature trees and counting.

Typical maintenance projects were put on hold while crews responded to each weather event, including cutting up downed trees and limbs, removing debris, and pumping excessive water.

In the spirit of April Fool's Day: The Board of Directors had the brilliant plan to rent out low lying areas to duck hunters, complete with decoys and retrievers. We could have made headlines throughout the golf world while raising revenues! Not.

Contact the golf shop to learn about course restrictions and how to enjoy the game without further damaging greens and fairways.



why they should join. Please introduce them to Rich Howarth and Katie Fehn, who can provide all the details and categories of membership.

I look forward to seeing you at the all member meeting.



## Special Dinners, All Member Meeting, Mexico Vacation, Solar Energy on The Calendar

#### By Rich Howarth, General Manager

The forecast is... sunny skies ahead. Make plans and come and play our fine golf course. We've weathered the toughest winter on record, at least, so far.

If you have not been out to the Club for dinner lately I suggest you give it a try. Chef Steven Frain is bringing a new level to our member food experience. If you enjoyed the Valentine's Day dinner then you know what I mean. I even received excellent comments from the club members across the river.

Exquisite dinners are served Tuesday through Sunday in the A. G. Spanos Grill and Friday and Saturday in the Fireside Room. The Member lounge is open from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

Plan on taking part in Irish Night Dinner from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday, March 17 when a special buffet includes corned beef and cabbage, Guinness braised lamb stew, potatoes and all the fixings. The next major culinary event is Southern Comfort Night on Friday, March 31. Cocktails at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 7 p.m. The menu includes chilled crab, jumbo shrimp, fresh oysters on the half shell, salad, corn chowder, beef brisket, and many more southern delights.

Remember it is always best to make reservations for special events that not

only provide a wonderful culinary experience, but afford our members the opportunity of introducing the club to prospective members.

#### All Member & Committee meeting

Join us at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 7 for the "All Member & Committee" meeting. Each committee will describe their duties and responsibilities and report on their 2017 goals. President Kevin Kauffman and I will give a State of the Club report. Please plan to attend, enjoy hosted appetizers and possibly get involved on one of the committees.

#### Solar

The club is looking at a solar option for our energy needs. Currently four companies are putting together bids for this potential project. The vision is a parking lot structure complete with lights and security cameras. The club produced 690,161 kilowatt hours in 2016, 783,874 (kwh) in 2015 and 786,385 (kwh) in 2014 and has done a good job on reducing energy use over the years. With ever-increasing energy costs the Board of Directors continues to look at alternative solutions. We'll keep you posted.

#### Mexico

This year's destination for the annual club trip was the all-inclusive Dreams Resort & Spa in Huatulco, Mexico. Huatulco, pronounced "wha TOOL co," is approximately 300 miles south of Acapulco on the Pacific Ocean. Stockton Golf and Country Club joined Woodbridge, Sierra View, and El Macero to share a Boeing 737-800 charter flight from Sacramento International direct to Huatulco. Upon arrival we were greeted by the friendly staff of International Leisure Travel who coordinated transportation from the airport to the beautiful Dreams Resort. The resort, set on Tangolunda Bay, offered spectacular ocean views, six swimming pools, five bars, six restaurants, 24-hour room service, Wi-Fi, tennis court, gym, spa, kayaks, Hobie Cat sailboats, paddle boards, and a private beach with full service. All included!

Golfers in the group enjoyed three rounds at the Las Parrots Club de Golf, located just three minutes from the resort. The championship 18-hole course was in excellent shape and with five sets of tee boxes, every level of player could relax and enjoy.

The town of Huatulco, population 50,000, was just a \$3 cab ride from the resort and definitely worth a visit. It bustled with activity, with plenty of shops and restaurants, and even cantinas to grab a margarita. Next year's trip information will roll out in early May. Hope you'll consider joining the fun.



### Phantom Plaque Few Members Have Ever Seen Adorns Memorial Entry Gate

By Peter Ottesen, Editor

A plaque designating the Rehfuss Memorial Gate is likely among the least recognized monuments in Stockton, perhaps anywhere. In case you are among the members of the Stockton Golf and Country Club who have never seen it, you might be surprised that it is erected at the entry to the club!

The problem? It is positioned on the granite column on the left side of the gate, a place auto drivers and their passengers normally overlook. After all, who looks across the lane with oncoming traffic to read a sign?

Fact is, most folks have never seen the plaque let alone read the inscription.

So, what's the point? Looking back at history, pharmacist Jacob Rehfuss was the first charter member of the Stockton Golf and Country Club and held Certificate No. 1. The certificate is shown on page 13 in "The History of the Stockton Golf and Country Club" that celebrates the club's centennial anniversary.

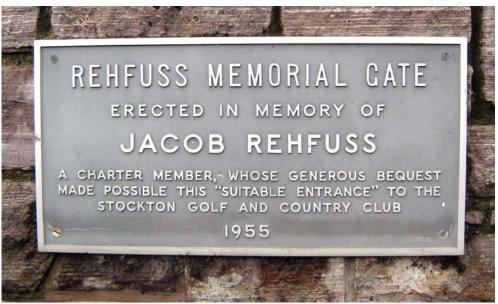
To current social member Judy Johnson Cheadle, Rehfuss was known as "Uncle Jacob," and it was she who pointed out the very existence of the plaque that most everyone has never known.

"You know, the memorial gate was financed in 1955 with a bequest from my uncle," Cheadle said. "He loved the club so much that he left money to improve the entry gate. Thus, the plaque that has withstood time for more than 62 years."

The words on the plaque are short and

to the point: "Rehfuss Memorial Gate erected in memory of Jacob Rehfuss, a charter member, whose generous bequest made possible this suitable entrance to the Stockton Golf and Country Club."

Next time you arrive or leave the club, stop at the entry gate and take time to not only discover, but to read the plaque. It is part of our proud legacy that has endured the test of more than 100 years.



### Special Culinary Events, Exclusive Wine Offer for Members

By Ron Boehm, Director of Food and Beverage

Hopefully you have had the opportunity to come to the club recently and sample some of the delicious offerings from Chef Steven Frain. The culinary team has been working hard over the past few months to improve the food and we are receiving many excellent comments about the flavors and appearance of our meals. Once Mother Nature provides some of her bounty you can look for more menu changes. In planning the menus, Chef Frain will look to partner with local farms to get only the best produce in the valley.

Anticipation runs high for the coming great events: St. Patrick's Dinner, Southern Comfort Seafood Dinner, and Oak Farm Chef's Wine Dinner. Easter is April 16 and right around the corner, highlighted by our traditional Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast for the kids. Make sure to invite your family and friends for Easter Sunday Brunch. Make your reservations now!

The club offers an exclusive "members only" wine program for purchasing by the case. Typically, the wholesale cost is at least half of what you will pay in the retail market. Keep an eye on your email for monthly offers and stock up your collection.

Yes, I am a wine geek! So, of course, I had to share these interesting wine related fun facts:

• In 1976, there was a wine tasting in Paris that blindly compared Californian wines to French wines. California won the competition and the lone reporter covering the event was blacklisted for reporting it.

• The ancient Greeks had a wine glass to ensure the drinker's moderation. If wine was poured above a certain level, the cup spilled its entire contents out of the bottom.

• Prince Charles uses wine to power his vintage Aston Martin!



### Full Schedule Keeps Senior Men's Golfers Acting Young and Vigorous

By Garry Potten, President

We anticipate a great golfing season in 2017. By now, you should have received an invitation to the second annual Senior Men's Kick-Off tournament, scheduled Wed., March 22. We'll begin with an 11:30 a.m. buffet lunch, followed by a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start.

This year the tournament will be open to all SGCC male members who are 50 years old or older. You do not have to be a member of the Senior Men's Club to play in this event. After the tournament, beginning at 6 p.m. there will be a no host "happy hour" followed by a delicious dinner and the tournament awards ceremony. For your enjoyment, live music will be hosted by Ron Beeman of Beeman Travel. Many of those who attended last year gave this event a "five star" rating. Honest! Please remember that significant others are invited and encouraged to attend the evening's festivities. Get your reservations in early by calling 948-4914.

Senior golfers have a full schedule of home-and-home tournaments this year with the kickoff event on Friday, March 28 at Oakdale. This is one of our most well attended outings so sign up early. Sign-up sheets are located on the table in the hallway just outside the golf shop.

Once again, we will have a Tournament Participation contest, which awards the top eight participants in Senior Men's tournaments with a free round of golf at a prestigious course. Two participation points are awarded for each home event, and one point for each "Away" event. Results will be posted on the Senior Men's bulletin board after each tournament. Also, just a reminder, to qualify for the Senior Men's Club championship, you must play in a minimum of three home and three away tournaments. All Senior Men's tournaments count toward qualification...including the Kick-Off tournament.

## Tuesday Ladies Seek New Members, Announce Calendar

#### By Susan Mark, Captain

Unfortunately, this article starts on a sad note. We lost a beloved member of our group, Arleta Dovichi. She attended our Christmas Luncheon and joined in on all the fun, and we had no idea that she was ill. We were shocked to hear that she had passed away on January 9, 2017. We send our condolences to her husband, Lee, and her family. She was always full of fun, and we will dearly miss her.

There is not anything to report on golfing activities since no one, except three ladies, has played golf this year.

Again, we love to have new members join our very small and welcoming nine hole group. If you're a new golfer or haven't played in a while, consider joining us. If you don't have enough time to play 18 holes but still would like to play, consider joining us.

We are not judgmental about how a person plays golf. We cheer each other on

and offer encouragement. Please contact me at 482-4021 to come play with us and try us out.

3/3/2017	WNHGA Spring Area				
	Meeting Woodbridge				
3/7/2017	General Meeting Mixer &				
	Putts-8:30 SG F9 ECCY				
3/14/2017	St. Patrick's Day Party,				
	Guest Day–				
	8:30 SG B9 ECCY				
3/21/2017	Blind Partner's-				
	8:30 SG F9 ECCY				
3/28/2017	Sweeps-8:30 SG B9 ECCY				
4/7/2017	FRIDAY! General Mtg.				
	Mixer & Putts-				
	8:30 SG F9 ECCY				
4/11/2017	Sweeps-8:30 SG B9 ECCY				
4/18/2017	Best Ball-Best Putt-				
	8:30 SG F9 ECCY				
Also, Oakdale Home & Home					
4/25/2017	Sweeps-8:30 SG B9 ECCY				
Also, Ope	en Day @ Spring Creek				

Okay, listen up. I don't want to hear any "nobody told me about it" excuses this year when it comes to notifications about upcoming Senior Tournaments. E-mail blasts are sent out well in advance of all Senior Men's Club events, and posters are everywhere in the club, including the restrooms. No excuses!

Perhaps you are 70 years or older? There also are Super Senior Tournaments just for you, comprised of four-man teams from each club. These tourneys are normally held on Tuesdays, with a few exceptions.

Still not enough golf opportunities to satiate your yearning to play? We also are eligible to play in Central Valley Senior events that are held on Mondays at clubs in the area. Most of these venues are not on our home-and-home schedule so there aren't redundancies.

Schedules for all these tournaments and a 2017 Senior Men's Directory will be available by March 15 in the golf shop.

### Thursday Ladies Looking Forward to St. Patrick's Golf

#### By Adrienne Hotchkiss, Captain

Unfortunately, there is not much to report since our Thursday Ladies Group did not play together in January or February. However, with sunny days ahead we are looking forward to a fun "St. Patrick's" format on March 16, when Leprechauns will be busy doing their magic.

Team Play starts March 23, with Betty Anne Urbick and Cathy Barnes plotting their strategies.

Upcoming dates of note include Kelley's Road Trip on April 6, "Beat the Pro" on April 20 and the Intra-Club Tournament, May 4 and 11.

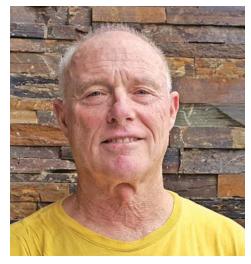
Hope you are enjoying the "Open Day" information by e-mail. Don't forget, if you are interested in playing in an Open Day, get a foursome together and contact Robin Goucher at 957-8045.

## Course Conditions Improve in Time to Welcome Spring Golfing Events, Gold Card Program

*By LPGA Head Golf Professional Kelley Spooner* 

As we look forward to improved weather and course conditions in the days to come, our busy season is almost here. March is typically when we get into member events and outside tournaments. Mark your calendar for the Senior Men's Kickoff slated for Wednesday, March 22, with an afternoon shotgun and dinner to follow.

New this season is the Ladies Nine & Wine golf group, with its signature event at 3 p.m., Friday, March 24. Whether you play golf on a regular basis or you are new to the game, join us for an afternoon of activities followed by a wine reception. Sign-up sheets for member events are located outside of the Golf Shop.



#### **Congratulations** Craig Marks

Some guys have all the luck! Craig Marks is one of those fortunate people. On January 16 he scored his third holein-one on No. 15, Craig's fifth career ace. The irony of his shot, witnessed by Dan Navone, Tony McBroom, Ray Ames, John Deluca, and Jared Overmier, is that he aced the same hole on his two previous aces. Congratulations Craig!

New England Patriots...Super Bowl 51 Champions! Some could say that has been the only "sunshine" in February and they wouldn't be far from the truth. We've definitely had our fair share of rain unprecedented amounts, in fact—this winter. However, we did catch a break just long enough to host our Super Bowl Tournament on Sunday, February 5.

Winning the event was the team of Patrick McGrath, Mike Leonard, Andy Mekjavich, and Rob Amo with a score of 125, calculated by the two net best balls of the foursome. Second place team of Randy Borland, Bob Leonard, Tom Shea, and Ray Guidi carded a 132.

Did you know? Stockton Golf and Country Club is part of the "Gold Card Program," an exclusive group of private golf clubs that exchange a very generous reciprocal program to golf members within this elite group. This program follows our continued commitment and efforts for member added value and satisfaction with the philosophy of adding amenities to your membership in a private country club.

Private Gold Card country clubs include: \*Brookside CC-Stockton, \*El Macero CC-Davis, \*Rancho Murrieta CC-Rancho Murrieta, \*Sierra View CC-Roseville, \*Spring Creek Golf & CC-Ripon, \*Woodbridge GCC-Lodi, \*Valley Hi CC-Elk Grove, \*Yolo Fliers Club-Woodland, and \*Turlock CC.

Here are the Reciprocal Member details that need to be followed:

1. Golf members are provided the courtesy of a \$30 reciprocal fee (includes green fee and golf cart). All charges are billed back to the member's home club.

2. Reciprocal privileges are extended within the context of the member privileges within the member's home club (i.e.: full golf members and/or golf social members). Privileges are not extended to Social Members.

3. Tee times and play are at the golf professional's discretion of the Home Club.

4. Member's permitted weekend reciprocal privileges are limited to tee times after 1 p.m.

5. Tee times must be scheduled in advance through the Head Golf

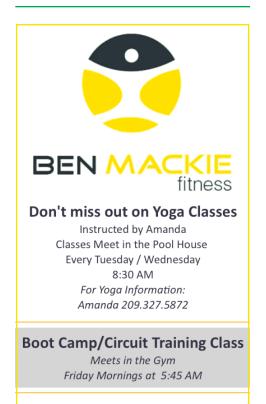
Professional of your home club.

6. Access to the Food & Beverage amenities on the day of play.

If you have any questions about the Gold Card Program contact the golf shop at 466-6221.

### In Remembrance

Don Coberly Norman Beckham Lawrence Hildebrand Arleta Dovichi



#### **Personal Training**

Available by appointment

For more information call: Ben Mackie 209.817.4721 cell 209.955.0360 business ben@benmackiefitness.com

## Did you know?

Regular certificated members receive additional benefits, including:

- One free regular dinner, lunch, or breakfast entrée during the month of the Regular member's birthday
- One free car rental (two riders) to be used any time after the first of the year
- 50% discount on corkage fees
- The food and beverage portion of a special event cost will apply toward quarterly food and beverage minimum requirements
- 10% discount on the annual cart lease fee
- Advanced tee times up to two weeks
- Regular members may phone in for "walk-in" tee times the morning they want to play
- Both spouses can make a starting time prior to 10:00 am on Saturday mornings

#### Did you also know?

- Jeans are allowed in all of the dining rooms in the clubhouse
- All banquet rooms are available for rent with our member discount program
- Grandchildren under 17 can play for \$5 and ride carts for free (when accompanied by member)
- Children and grandchildren can take private golf lessons from our PGA/LPGA teaching pros
- Members have access to the Gold Club, where you can play many clubs in the area for \$30 (arrangements must be made through the golf shop)
- The club has many golfing opportunities, including: Senior Men's Club, Men's Club, Tuesday 9 Hole Ladies, Thursday 18 Hole Ladies, and other club tournaments



### Chef's Menu Selection of the Month

Chocolate lover's dream of hot Ghirardelli chocolate cake with a liquid center, served with passion fruit caramel and vanilla bean ice cream.

> Steven Frain Executive Chef

### Stockton Golf & Country Club Management Staff

Rich Howarth General Manager

Elisa Fernandez *Controller*  Steven Frain Executive Chef

Bernie Holloway

Interim Golf Course

Superintendent

Kelley Spooner LPGA Head Golf Professional

Katie Fehn Catering and Membership Sales Director

Ron Boehm Food and Beverage Director

Administration: 209-466-4313 – Pro Shop: 209-466-6221 Website: www.stocktongolfcc.com

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<b>2</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b> <b>1</b>	AINT NIGHT /ednesday, Ma 35 per person	arch 29th n	1	<b>2</b> Thursday Ladies	3	4
Includes wine & light appetizers		Thursday Ladies Board Meeting 9:00am	Mix Up 9:00am SG		Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm Sunday Couples 11:00am TT	Club Closed	Tuesday Ladies Mixer & Putts 8:30am F9 ECCY All Member Meeting 6:00pm Fried Chicken Night	Couples Bridge Golf Committee 12:00pm	Thursday Ladies Sweeps 9:00am SG		Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm Outside Event 12:30pm SG
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm Daylight Saving begins <i>Spring Ahead</i> !	Club Closed	Tuesday Ladies St. Patrick's Guest Day B9 ECCY Meatloaf Night	House Committee 12:00pm	Thursday Ladies Special Format 9:00am SG Finance Committee 4:00pm	St. Patrick's Day Dinner Buffet 5:00pm	Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm NCGA/NCPGA Junior Tour 1:00pm SG
NCGA/NCPGA TT 7:30am Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm	Outside Event First Day of Spring	21 Tuesday Ladies Blind Partner 8:30am F9 ECCY Events Committee 4:30pm Shepherds Pie Night	222 Senior Men's Kickoff 12:30pm SG Board of Directors 5:00pm Bingo Game	23 Thursday Ladies Sweeps 9:00am SG	24 Ladies Nine and Wine 3:00pm	25 Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm	Club Closed	Tuesday Ladies Sweeps 8:30am B9 ECCY Rib Night	Paint Party 6:00pm	Thursday Ladies Sweeps 9:00am SG	Southern Comfort Dinner 6:00pm	

~ Reservations Required ~



FRIDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup> ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER BUFFET Corned Beef, Lamb, Salmon & Much More \$22 per person 5:00 - 8:00 pm



FRIDAY, MARCH 31<sup>st</sup> SOUTHERN COMFORT DINNER BUFFET Fresh Crab, Shrimp, Oysters, Beef Brisket & More Wine with Dinner \$40 inclusive per person 6:00 - 9:00 pm



SUN	MON UPLES INVIT Sunday, Ap	oril 23	COUNTI PRIL 201 WED	RY CLUI 7 THUR SIGN UP N 56th Ann Delta Clai	FRI OW! ual ssic	SAT 1
9:00 am Shotgun			Men's Invitational May 18 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup>			Men's Club Kickoff Masters 9:00am SG
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm Couples Golf 11:00am TT	OUTSIDE EVENT	COURSE CLOSED AERATION Membership Committee 4:00pm BBQ Chicken Night	COURSE CLOSED AERATION Thursday Ladies Board Meeting 9:00am	COURSE CLOSED AERATION No Corkage Night	Tuesday Ladies General Meeting Mixer 8:30 SG F9 ECCY	Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm
<b>9</b> Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm	<b>10</b> CLUB CLOSED	Tuesday Ladies Sweeps 8:30am SG B9 ECCY Events Committee Meeting 4:30 Taco Night	<b>12</b> Oak Farm Dinner 6:00pm Couples Bridge Night Game 6:00pm Dinner 7:00pm	TNML Kickoff 5:30pm SG Thursday Ladies Sweeps 8:30am SG No Corkage Night	Happy Hour and Tunes 5:30pm - 8:30pm	<b>15</b> Easter Bunny Breakfast 9:00am
16 HAPPY EASTER! Easter Brunch 10:00am - 2:00pm	<b>17</b> OUTSIDE EVENT	Tuesday Ladies Best Ball - Best Putt 8:30am SG F9 ECCY Pasta Night	House Committee 12:00pm Green Committee 4:00pm	20 TNML Kickoff 5:30pm SG Thursday Ladies Sweeps 8:30am SG Sr. Men's Brd Mtg 9:15am Finance Committee Meeting 4:00pm No Corkage Night	21 Men's Club Guest Day 1:00pm SG	22 Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm
23 John States S		25 Tuesday Ladies Sweeps 8:30am SG B9 ECCY Meatloaf Night	26 Board Meeting 5:00pm BINGO: Dinner @ 6:00pm Game @ 7:00pm	27 TNML Kickoff 5:30pm SG Thursday Ladies Beat the Pro 8:30am SG No Corkage Night	28	29 Weekend Brunch 7:00am - 2:00pm
CELEBRATE WITH US! SATURDAY, APRIL 15 <sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY, APRIL 15 <sup>TH</sup> BASTER BUNNY BREAKFAST 9 am - 12 pm Photos with the Easter Bunny, Egg Hunt, Kids' Crafts & More! Adults & Children - \$18						