

THE BIRCHBARK

An Orchard Lake Country Club Publication

March/April 2009

WELCOME BACK!

**Open 2009 with a
Taste of Orchard Lake**
for only \$20 per person!

**Saturday, March 21, 2009
6:00 pm**

Come taste:

ALL NEW WINES BY THE GLASS!

We have some special surprises that will broaden your palette's perspective.
(wine tasting is included in price)

The NEW MENU ITEMS!

Food stations representing all areas of the club, from Halfway house to the Main Clubhouse to the Lake House.

Come Visit:

With the staff anxious to return from a long winter and ready to spoil you for another year!

Can you afford NOT to be a part of this event?
(No ala carte dining will be available this evening)

Casual Spring (in spirit) attire.

Family Bingo Night

Friday, March 27

6:00 pm Buffet

7:00 pm Games will start

There will be prizes for everyone!

*The 2009
Spring Signature Party Presents...*



April in Paris

Saturday, April 25

7:00 pm

\$45 per person



Stroll through the streets of Paris and enjoy a casino and wine bar, a flavorful flair of french food stations and desserts and great entertainment throughout the evening.

Look for your invitation coming soon.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 11

10:00 am Entertainment & Brunch Buffet

Easter egg hunt, live petting farm and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny along with a fabulous brunch & dessert station.

EASTER DAY BUFFET

Sunday, April 12

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Easter Bunny will be making a stop at Orchard Lake Country Club this Easter!



EASTER DINNER

Sunday, April 12

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

An a la carte menu will be featured along with a salad bar and dessert station.

Reservations are recommended.

A Family Tradition Since 1926

THE GM'S PERSPECTIVE



Tim Ward,
General Manager

Melting the Ice

Orchard Lake is starting to look like a lake again and we're finally seeing more grass than snow. This can only mean it's getting closer to our reopening. On March 21st we will reopen with a "Taste of Orchard Lake". This promises to be a high spirited affair (with a very low price point) and we hope that anyone who isn't a snow bird will come and see the food and wine offerings that will kick off the new season at OLCC. There will be an entirely new 'wines by the glass' list, included in the price to keep you sampling. There will be a generous representation of new menu items to keep your taste buds engaged. This is a great way to wake up from the deep winter and see how we've prepared for a memorable season, and a perfect opportunity to begin your commitment to "use the club early and often."

Big 'Little' Improvements

In an effort to be proactive to the uncertainties of the economy the club made a decision not to engage in any major club renovations, but that doesn't mean we haven't made some changes! So what are some of the things you can expect to see?

Well, the paddle house people have been enjoying a new high definition TV and the satellite dish that we brought in with it. It makes warming up in the 'hut' a little nicer.

There will be twenty additional lockers in the ladies pool locker room, which should alleviate the stress of where to put all your families' gear this summer. I know there were many voices on this one, and we were listening!

There's a new call box on the ninth tee for our golfers to call in their orders to Connie at the halfway house, and by the time you get there, she'll be waiting for you instead of the other way around! Now it's just Connie's warm personality and good conversation that threatens to hold you up!

Again, there's an entirely new set of wines by the glass that promise to keep your attention.

Coming in May, watch for the dates and times for you to take advantage of Carl Gunderson's "fitness center orientation" sessions. This should give many of you that may have felt intimidated by the machines in the fitness center a chance to see how easily they can be utilized. You made the resolution, now we want to help you keep it! Even the seasoned veterans may find ways to maximize a given apparatus more beneficially.

Watch for Family Bingo Night in late March. This should be lot of fun, with a family buffet and bingo to follow. Simple and fun.

We will be hosting not just the Michigan Open in June, but the Inter Club Tennis Championships in August. This is a grand event taking place over three days and spanning

several clubs, with the culmination gala dinner at OLCC. Jim Flemming and Greg Cooper have also arranged for a late season USTA event to be held at the club in September. Our tennis mavens understand the high profile nature of these types of events, but for the rest of us, let's just say it's a feather in our cap.

The Signature Parties will kick off with the spring party on April 25th, the theme of which is 'April in Paris'. Dig out your berets and get ready for the streets of Patee.

I know the Food & Beverage minimums have gone up, but you now have an entire year to use them! The minimums are based on a fiscal year (Nov. - Oct.) but don't worry, last November, December and January WILL be credited to your account for this year.

Family Milestones

We have a handful of employees that have reached significant anniversaries at the club. Their dedication and commitment to excellence are the foundation upon which Orchard Lake CC has built such a premier status. It is a spirit of willingness to continue to learn and grow, an attitude of 'whatever it takes', the resolve to never rest on their laurels, and a desire to always look for the unmet want of the members that make them such valuable assets to this club. Thank you all for your loyalty.

Please make an effort to congratulate them in your visits to the club.

And who are they? I thought you'd never ask!

20 years

Carl Lee
Paul Pilch
Sherry Broden

15 years

Sally Clauser
Sally Woehler

10 years

Juvenal Villafuerte

5 years

Mike Dupuis
Phil Watkins
Corey Byron
Scott Patterson
Matt Evans
Tony Baker
Tiffany Henderson

New Year- New Challenges

Last year much was accomplished through listening and communicating with the members. The staff helped tremendously by keeping an open ear to your feedback and bringing it to the management team. Nobody was ignored, and I think the wishes of the membership were fulfilled to a large degree. I want to stress to you that we're still listening, and your feedback will continue to be important as both a springboard for new ideas and a yardstick by which we measure our performance.

Let's have another great year, and WELCOME BACK!

Tim Ward
General Manager
Orchard Lake Country Club
tward@orchardlakecountryclub.com
248-682-1604

SOCIAL CALENDAR/CLUB NEWS

TASTE OF ORCHARD LAKE

Saturday, March 21

6:00 pm

Come and enjoy a preview of Orchard Lake's 2009 menus and wines by the glass.

\$20 per person

Casual attire

SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday, March 22 & 29 on the lower level.

Sunday in March a great brunch will be featured from 10:30 am - 2 pm. \$12 per person

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

Friday, March 27

6:00 pm Buffet

7:00 pm Games will start

Prizes for everyone!

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 11

10:00 am Entertainment & Brunch Buffet

Easter egg hunt, live petting farm and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny along with a fabulous brunch & dessert station.



EASTER DAY BUFFET

Sunday, April 12

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Easter Bunny will be making a stop at Orchard Lake Country Club this Easter!

EASTER DINNER

Sunday, April 12

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

An a la carte menu will be featured along with a salad bar and dessert station.

Reservations are recommended.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT DAY BUFFET

Wednesday, April 22

11:30 am - 2 pm

Show your appreciation by bringing your staff to the club for lunch for a special lunch buffet.

APRIL IN PARIS - SPRING PARTY

Saturday, April 25

7:00 pm

\$45 per person

Stroll through the streets of Paris and enjoy a casino and wine bar, a flavorful flair of french food stations and desserts and great entertainment throughout the evening.

SAVE THE DATES...

Here are the dates for our 2009 signature parties and club events that you will not want to miss.

*April in Paris
(Spring signature party)*

April 25th

Men's Golf League Begins

April 30th

Mother's Day Brunch & Dinner

May 10th

Spring Wine Fling

May 15th

Memorial Day Buffet

May 25th

The Blue Coat

June 18 - 20

Father's Day Buffet

June 21st

*Smoke on the Water,
Fire in the Sky
(Signature Party)*

June 28th

Family Fun Day

July 4th

Signature Summer Party

July 11th

The Players Invitational

July 23 - 25

Labor Day Party

September 7th

Halloween Party

October 25th

*Christmas Cheer
(Signature Party)*

December 5th

GOLF NEWS

2009 Men's Member-Guest Invitationals

THE BLUE COAT INVITATIONAL

June 18th - 20th

Thursday: Practice Round and Stag Dinner

Friday: 27 Holes of Match Play

Saturday: 18 Holes of Match Play &
a Clam Bake in the evening.

THE PLAYERS INVITATIONAL

July 23rd - 25th

Thursday: Practice Round and Stag Dinner

Friday: 27 Holes of Match Play

Saturday: 18 Holes of Match Play and
dinner dance following the tournament.

Look for the tournament entry cards in
the mail late March, early April.

Men's Early Bird Golf Event

Saturday, May 2nd

8:30 am Shotgun Start

2 Best Balls of 4 with the "Red Ball"

Closest to the Pin Shootout!

Losing half of the field buys lunch.

Sign up in the Men's Locker room or at

bdice@orchardlakecountryclub.com



Golden Tee Presents...

The 2009 Ladies Member-Guest Golf Invitational

July 8th & 9th

Open to all women golfers and their guests.
Stay tuned for more information about this fun
filled event!

PLAN AHEAD FOR THE 2009 GOLF SEASON! JOIN THE MSGA

Join with many of your fellow Orchard Lake members in the great activities of Michigan Senior Golf Association, established on October 23, 1923. It is an organization of men from different clubs who meet and enjoy good fellowship and their common interest - GOLF.

The 2009 Schedule includes:

Play in as many tournaments as you wish.	May 11	Oakland Hills Country Club
	June 8	Port Huron Country Club
	June 29-30	Kent Country Club and Muskegon Country Club
	July 13	Franklin Hills Country Club
	August 9-11	St. Ives/Tullymore
	September 14-15	Annual Championship: Birmingham Country Club and Knollwood Country Club

Membership Requirements are:

- Any person reaching the age of 50
- Anyone seeking membership must be sponsored by an MSGA member and endorsed by at least two additional MSGA members
- The initiation fee is \$200.00 with annual dues of \$110.00

If you have any questions or would like to receive an application, please call either:
Al Hibbert, Executive Director - MSGA (313) 882-6540 or Fred Adams, Jr. (248) 593-9210

GOLF NEWS

Divot Diggings

You can always tell spring is approaching when the days are getting longer and usually warmer. We seem to have one of the two this year but we're hoping this will change soon.

We had high winds hit the Detroit area February 11th - 12th and we lost a few trees and had some damage that needed to be addressed. Every winter we try to prune at least three holes worth of trees and one or two in season. This year we have been able to improve upon this and have really hit some area's well. We are working to remove a lot of the Austrian Pine which have been declining with diplodia tip blight that you can see with the needles becoming a burnt orange color. Removing overgrown vegetation along our boundaries at seven and thirteen which are reaching onto the course property are being trimmed.

Snow melting has occurred over the last week and we were able to get a look at how the turf has held up. We are seeing some Grey Snow Mold on fairways and roughs. However, greens and tees look great so far. Grey Snow Mold damage is what we call superficial (it only strikes the tip of the turf) it will recover as soon as the turf grows and we mow it a few times.

In the early spring we will be taking a couple bunkers out of play to repair some wash out damage and replace worn sod. This will not be as extensive as the work we did on the eight green complex. Our goal is to remove contamination from a few of the worst bunkers, line them and replace the sand. The aesthetics of the bunkers will not change.

This year we will have two trash receptacles on every ball washer. They will be labeled for you to put your trash into one and the other will be for recycling our water bottles, Gatorade bottles or any plastic's.

Thank you,

Aaron McMaster

SAVE THE DATES...

Men's Golf

Ladies Golf

April

30 Men's League Begins

May

2 Men's Early Bird
30-31 Tin Lizzie

May

6 Ladies AM & PM Leagues Begin
21 Ladies Spring Handicap
28 Ladies Spring Handicap

Men's Thursday Night Golf League

April 30th - June 4th
5:30 Shotgun Start
Grab a partner and get ready for spring!
Limited to the first 40 2-man teams. Great dinner buffet following golf by Chef Mark and many wonderful raffle prizes!
Sign up in the Golf Shop at (248) 682-2500 or bdice@orchardlakecountryclub.com

Ladies Wednesday Night Golf League

May 6th - June 24th
(No event on June 10th)
5:30 Shotgun Start
Pick your partner and get ready to score some points! Play some golf, stay for dinner and drinks, and win some prizes!
Sign up in the Golf Shop at (248) 682-2500 or bdice@orchardlakecountryclub.com

PLATFORM TENNIS NEWS

Platform Tennis Tournament Results

Men's Club Championships

Winners



David Wood, Peter Robinson

Runners-up

Brady Blain/Carl Guething

Men's Invitational

Winners



Kurt Streng, Dave Woodruff

Runners-up

Todd Dolan/Steve Lord

Ladies Club Championship

Flight A Winner

Lisa Drews/Imme Theilenhaus

Runners-up

Mary Nunez/Julie Jenney

Ladies Club Championships

Flight B Winner

Edrie Robinson/Lynn Middleton

Runners-up

D'Anne Kleinsmith/Candace Seizert

2009 OLCC Tennis Calendar

Adult Tennis

May 18 USTA League Play Begins
 May 22 Women's Opening Day
 May 23 Men's Cardio Tennis Begins

 June 2 Senior Tennis Nights Begin
 June 26 Women's 7.0+ Invitational
 June 27 Saturday Night Mixer

 July 4 Family Fun Day
 July 5 Breakfast at Wimbledon
 July 11 Adult/Youth Tournament
 July 18 Saturday Night Mixer
 July 24 Women's 6.5- Invitational

 August 22 Saturday Night Mixer

 Sept. 13 Men's Invitational
 Sept. 25 Out w/Tennis, In w/Paddle

Youth Tennis

May 18 Youth Pre-Season Camp Begins

 June 6 Youth Tennis Carnival
 June 15 Old Orchard Challenge
 June 19 OLCC vs. BAC
 June 22 Apple Island Tournament
 June 26 OLCC vs. OHCC
 June 26 Wild and Crazy Nights

 July 4 Family Fun Day
 July 10 OLCC vs. PLCC
 July 11 Adult/Youth Tournament Mixer
 July 13 Boy's Club Championship
 July 17 OLCC vs. BCC
 July 18 Inter-club Mixed Doubles
 July 20 Girl's Club Championships
 July 24 OLCC vs. BOH
 July 24 Wild and Crazy Nights

 August 2 Grand Slam Cup (B Finals)
 August 3-5 Inter-Club Finals at OLCC
 August 11 August Camps Begin

 Sept 2 Sports Banquet

TENNIS / SWIM NEWS



Greg Cooper, USPTA
Racquets Director

Spring into Tennis!

The tennis season is starting and there are many programs to take advantage of. Many of these programs are a response to suggestions by members and were implemented this past summer. They were a big hit and will continue this summer. Our goal is to provide programs for members to increase play and enjoyment of a great game. Take a close look to see what's coming!

'Cardio-n-Play' - an hour of cardio tennis followed by open play on weekends and weeknights. This will be concurrent with junior programming to help involve the family!

Ladies USTA teams to join with levels ranging from 2.5 to 4.0.

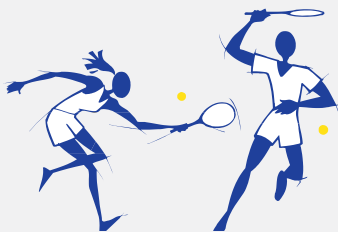
Senior Men's Night Tuesdays AND Thursdays.

Youth Programs...Interclub will continue as usual (Champs!), Rising Stars Team Match Play, Beginners and Little Stokers.

All of these are either new or have a new twist to them! The summer will be what you make of it...we have it all ready and waiting for you!

We'll see you soon!

Greg Cooper
Racquets Director



Upcoming Tennis Dates

Adult

May 18 USTA League Play Begins
May 22 Women's Opening Day
May 23 Men's Cardio Tennis Begins

Youth

May 18 Youth Pre-Season Camp Begins

Youth

Inter-club Team—Make sure that you set aside August 2nd-5th!

Youth in this program put in the time and effort to improve as the summer progresses. The work that you put into this summer determines your ability, your position on the ladder, and it determines if you will play for OLCC at Inter-club Finals. I expect great things from all of you. Make sure that you set aside August 2nd-5th for the Finals. You could climb the ladder to represent OLCC or show your support by cheering on your teammates!

Rising Stars Team

This relatively new version of Rising Stars is a precursor to Inter-clubs. It is a team with a ladder and matches with other local clubs. Along with regular lesson methods, this team will use what's called Quick Start Tennis. It is the tennis version of 'T-ball' for baseball being adopted by the USTA for 10 and under tournament matches. The court is divided into sections and a slower ball is used to allow for longer rallies and strategy! It is a great way to introduce young players to point situations before they are completely ready to play points from the baseline. We are looking forward to this fun way to learn the game of a lifetime.

2009 Swim Schedule

JUNE

28 BCC @ OLCC

JULY

2 OLCC @ BOH
9 FLCC @ OLCC
12 MCC @ OLCC
19 OLCC @ PLCC
22 Dual Meet Rain Date
26 Summer Splash @ PLCC
27 Seed Meeting
31 Championship Prelims @ MCC

AUGUST

1 Championship Finals @ MCC

Orchard Lake Country Club

2009 Board of Governors

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Vice President - Donald F. Carney, Jr.

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Secretary - D. Craig Valassis

Director - Robert S. Cubbin

Director - Edward G. Doyle

Director - David S. Eberly

Director - Robert P. Nunez

Director - Dave Woodruff

March

21 Taste of Orchard Lake
22 & 29 Brunch
27 Family Bingo Night

A La Carte dinner only on March 26-28

April

11 Easter Egg Hunt
12 Easter Brunch & Dinner
19 & 26 Brunch
22 Administrative Assistant Day
25 April in Paris

Please look at your calendar for dining in April

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