

The Country Club of the Crystal Coast

...where friends connect

By Bill Knecht

The 2016 golf club championships were played on June 11 and 12 at the Country Club of the Crystal Coast. The men's club champion for 2016 is Joshua Spears, and the ladies' club champion is Bonnie Ferneau. Individual flight winners were Bonnie Ferneau in the ladies' 9-hole flight, Joshua Spears in the men's championship flight, Cliff Dillard in the men's 18-hole 1st flight, Bob Stiehl in the men's senior 18-hole flight, and Martin Ehman in the men's 9-hole flight. The ladies' 18-hole flight did not play. If you see any of these winners, please congratulate them.

I would be remiss if I didn't extend my personal thanks to three of our staff members who recently made us all very proud. They were not seeking glory in their actions, merely expressing their generosity, kindness, love and caring for another human being. David Brand, who was a staff employee, recently passed away from cancer. Over the last several months while he was in the hospital, and later at his home until he passed away, the club's restaurant manager, Aubrey Ipock, and two of our servers, Kelly Wakeman and Brooke Reese, visited him daily and took care of him as though he were their father. These three ladies exemplify the kind and caring nature of our staff. If you see them, please thank them.

If you haven't tried soccer golf yet, put it on your to-do list. It's a lot of fun for all ages. The course is currently open every day, with tee times starting between 4 and 6 p.m. Now that school is out and vacationers have arrived, the course is busy. For soccer golf tee times, call the club's pro shop at 726-1034, ext. 10.

The club's annual Artisan and Craft Show fundraiser will be held August 6 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. We hope you'll be able to stop by to check out the offerings.

The 2016 member-guest golf tournament will be held July 14-17. If you are not a member, you can play with a member or, better yet, join the club before the tournament. For more information, call General Manager Chip Chamberlin at 726-1034, ext. 12, or the pro shop at 726-1034, ext. 10.

Club member Jean Haggard, who is a registered yoga teacher (RYT200) and who has practiced yoga for 30 years, will lead a six-week yoga class at the club, starting on Wednesday, July 20, and each Wednesday thereafter through August 24. If you would like to refresh your body this summer and become stronger, more flexible and more relaxed, this yoga class is designed for you. Contact Jean at 241-3812 or jph0329@gmail.com before July 15 to register. The cost for the entire class is \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members. Individual classes are \$15 each.

Don't forget the club's extremely popular annual member and guest Fourth of July party with games and activities for all ages, fireworks at 9 p.m. and a DJ for dancing and your listening entertainment. Last year over 500 people enjoyed the festivities.

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Hands Touching Hands

By Jim Turner

They sat on the wooden bench so close together that their hips touched. Once they had settled, her thin, pale hand lifted and he met it with his own. A silent, unspoken message had passed from one to the other: "We are one." They spoke occasionally but mostly sat quietly and absorbed the world surrounding them. Perhaps they were remembering when they were part of the energy they witnessed. Maybe they were not ready to accede to the inevitable demands of time, to be merely observers. There was more yet for them to do, to see, more to accomplish. But this moment was a time to rest and watch others, just as I was watching them. For a moment I wondered if the couple on the bench might actually be us, and it occurred to me that the scene before me is not a vision of the future but a view of today. The weeks and months are moving along so quickly that I want to shout, "Slow down!"

Summer is here already on Bogue Banks and the crowds of tourists have supplanted its usual serenity with constant traffic noise and long waits in grocery stores. The upside of the season is that our grandkids have become a larger part of our daily scene as they enjoy Camp GrandMaMa and Poppy, and those other camps that demand tuition. Yesterday was Christmas. A couple of hours ago Jean had a birthday, and later we celebrated our 50th anniversary.

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Non-members are always welcome to play golf, tennis and soccer golf at any available time at the non-member daily rates. When you come to play, you are considered a member for the day, entitling you to dine at the club on that day.

The club's next open house for prospective new members is on July 8 from 5 to 6 p.m. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages are served. You can even stay for the club's popular burger night after the open house. If you want something other than a burger, you can order from any of the club's regular menus. Gluten free options are always available. We are looking forward to seeing you at the club, *where friends connect.*



On May 18, members and guests gathered at The Country Club of the Crystal Coast for the sixth annual Ladies Tennis Memorial Day. Even though the rain prohibited tennis play, the ladies (and one man) met for lunch and entertainment. Very special guests attended the affair and are listed below. With the support of 38 attendees, a donation gift will be presented to the Carteret County Habitat for Humanity. Pictured, from left: Sally Worrell (aka Elaine Holt, a former member of a national championship team), Mariana Goldstein (aka Maria Sharapova), Sue Dunlap (aka Serena Williams), Shari Malone (aka Billie Jean King) and Chris Baile (aka John McEnroe).—Photo by John Furman