



THE RIVER

NEWSLETTER - FALL/WINTER 2009

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PLUS!
MEMBERS IN
THE SPOTLIGHT



SPOTLIGHT

CT PGA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

It is with great pride that Great River congratulates our PGA Head Golf Professional Tom Rosati, for being named 2009 Connecticut Section PGA Teacher of The Year.

The award recognizes his dedication to teaching, his outstanding service as a golf instructor, and his promotion of the game of golf. Tom has been with Great River since it's opening in 2001.

The Tom Rosati Golf Academy works with over 250 students each year, from tuning up the game of other golf professionals and top colligate players to working with young beginners, Tom's achievements are well honored.

Tom will be honored at the MGM Grand at Foxwoods Casino at the CT PGA Special Awards Dinner on Sunday November 22, 2009. Join us in congratulating Tom on this special award!



BMW OF BRIDGEPORT FORMS PARTNERSHIP WITH GREAT RIVER GOLF CLUB



Great River welcomes its new member and strategic partner, BMW of Bridgeport. General Manager and Principal, Mitch McManus, said it best, "BMW has gained fame for excellence in engineering and performance and so has Great River as being one of the top golf properties in the state. It's a perfect fit." Read more on back cover...



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Before the last golf ball is hit in the completion of the 2009 season, our staff has been planning our 10th anniversary "Season of Celebration" for 2010. We will be featuring 10 special events over 10 weeks. A family cookout and fireworks in August will be the celebration finale! We hope you'll make Great River your club for the next ten years.

Thank you for your support in 2009 – Have a great holiday season.



ANNUAL CHARITY EVENTS

GREAT CHARITIES AND GREAT EVENTS AT GREAT RIVER IN 2009

Each year, Great River makes over \$150,000 in charitable donations. In 2009, we continued this tradition with two special events in particular.

The 2nd Annual IMUS Ranch Golf Classic, held in September, benefited Don Imus' Ranch for Kids with Cancer. All proceeds of the event go to the Ranch. With the support of Don Imus and the WABC Radio family, the Imus Ranch received over \$182,000.

The 3rd Annual Great River Corporate Challenge to benefit The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. was held on October 1st. The Great River Corporate Challenge not only held to its competitive nature, but with the support of our corporate sponsors including Heineken USA, Four Seasons Racquet Club and Iroquois Gas, we raised over \$20,000 for The Connecticut Hospice, Inc. Over the past 3 years, Great River has donated over \$50,000 to this worthy charity. Congratulations to all of the participants, especially our 2009 winners: Vogue Electric and Filco, Ltd., who both won 2010 Junior Corporate Memberships at Great River.

Great River is proud to be the host for these worthy charitable events and even prouder to know that the proceeds directly benefit people in need of the services each of these charities provide.



MONTY'S

RIVER GRILLE

CHEF'S CORNER: *Executive Chef Dan Scinto*



WELCOME TO MONTY'S RIVER GRILLE!

Don't forget about our great events this winter!

As the weather gets colder, Great River heats up with these great late season events.

November 26th

Thanksgiving Harvest Dinner

Book early as this event always sells out!

Two Seatings: 12 Noon and 3:00 pm

December 13th

Brunch with Santa, Buddy the Elf and all of their friends.

A fun and festive event for the whole family!

Two Seatings: 10:00 am and 1:00 pm

December 31st

New Year's Eve a la Carte Dinner

Two Seatings: 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm

Don't forget about Great River for your company's holiday party or happy hours. Call us about specials & availability! Check our website for all of our event dates and information.

**Watch for our Spring Wine Tasting
Dinner Featuring Italian Foods & Wines!**

KEEP THAT COMPETITIVE EDGE – WINTER TOURNAMENTS

For most of you the golf season is over, because the weather is colder and winter is coming. So what? Let me remind you that anyone who plays this irrational game is touched in the head anyway, so why hang up the clubs just because of a little snow and cold?

To prepare for the winter golf season let me give you some advice. First you have to dress properly by layering your clothing. This Under Armor compression stuff works great. They even have compression boxer briefs. Your next layer should be a fleece sweater or knit mock. For the last layer: water-proof outerwear, durable but light enough so you can swing. You'll need a knit ski cap, beanie style or one that covers the whole face. Don't forget winter golf gloves, golf mitts and hand warmers to keep in the golf mitts. If you're playing in the snow you'll need Oregon Mudder golf boots. You'll also need low compression golf balls like the Maxfli Noodle. Change balls every hole keeping warm ones in your bag. Make sure your grips are new. Use the tackiest grip, one that works well in moisture. Never take a golf cart - walk to keep the blood flowing. You'll need a good light carry bag or pull cart. And one last thing I almost forgot, winter golf tees. Since you can't get a regular tee into frozen ground, they sell these things that look like obstacle cones.

Now that you're prepared, here's your Winter Tournament Schedule. Call me if you want to sign-up.

Chilly Open - February; Chisolm, Minnesota - This event, started in 1984, traverses three nine-hole courses set up on Lake Minnetonka. Wind chills of minus 31 degrees don't stop 500 hardcore golfers from teeing it up.

Bering Sea Ice Golf Classic - March 15; Nome Alaska – Only six-holes, par-41 course is laid out on the frozen Bering Sea. Participants get shotgun shells to use as tees and "snake bite remedies" — small bottles of vodka — to ward off the chill.

The World Ice Golf Championship - March 20-25; Uummannaq, Greenland – This masochist Masters began in 1997 on a "course" that weaves among glaciers and icebergs 373 miles north of the Arctic Circle.

Pillar Mountain Golf Classic - March 29-31; Kodiak, Alaska – It started with a bar wager. Over 20 years later, the world's sturdiest golfers, clubs in hand, ascend 1,400-foot Pillar Mountain each April Fool's weekend and trade their golf spikes in for crampons. The PMGC covers one weekend and one hole — a par 70.

Good luck and try not to lose any fingers to frost bite. Yours Truly, Tom

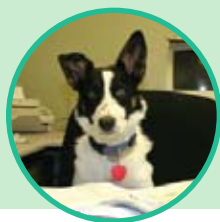


FROM THE SUPERINTENDANT: *Sean Flynn / Golf Course Superintendent*

CONGRATULATIONS TO SEAN FLYNN, GCSAA

Sean was one of 25 individuals, from around the nation, nominated by the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America to participate in the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America's Leadership Academy.

"The lifeblood of any organization is a membership that has vision and is engaged," GCSAA President Mark D. Kuhns, CGCS, said "we believe it is important to identify and cultivate leaders who can execute on the association's mission and vision. Sean is to be congratulated because he has been recognized by his peers as having the talent to be a leader."



Speaking for myself, said Summer Flynn, "I'm proud of Sean, but I just wish the real brains behind the operation (me) would get a little credit, or at least some extra biscuits."

Great job Sean – the Great River Golf Club is lucky to have you (and Summer)!

JUNIOR GOLF HIGHLIGHTS

What a great first year for me at Great River Golf Club! We had a terrific junior golf program with over 100 juniors of various skill levels from ages 6 to 17. Throughout the summer, junior golfers went through our Tom Rosati Golf Academy Level Achievement* program. We plan to build on and continue to grow and improve both the Learning Center and the Tom Rosati Golf Academy Junior Golf Programs for the next year.

In addition, we held our First Annual Great River Junior Golf Invitational in September. The event was a great success and the kids enjoyed getting the chance to compete and play at Great River.

Our winners in each division included: Ben James (6-10 year olds), Brett Marieb (11-13 year olds) and Anthony Vecchiarelli (14-17 year olds). They are not only students at the Academy; they are also top players in the New England Area. We plan on expanding the Tournament next year to make it bigger and better!!

I would like to thank all of you for your help in making my move to Connecticut a great experience. I look forward to seeing you all next Season!



THE SHOP CORNER: *Karin Attolino*

2010 IN THE PRO SHOP

2010 promises to be one of the best in golf technology and also happens to be Great River Golf Club's 10th year anniversary.

TaylorMade is launching a new 5-piece ball, the Penta. The new XFT wedge by TaylorMade is the first exchangeable face wedge to keep your grooves at peak performance. Our first Demo Day for 2010 will be May 15th with TaylorMade, so you can try all the newest 2010 technology. Our second TaylorMade Demo Day is June 12th.



Plaid bottoms are still popular for Spring 2010. Be daring and wear plaid! We're going to feature Ecco & Adidas shoes next season – but don't forget we will special order FootJoy for you, too.

SALES: Our End Of Season Sale is going on now! Shop with us for all your holiday gifts and Great River Gift Cards.

March 14th - April 3rd Great River Anniversary Sale: All shoes, apparel & accessories - 20% off
All golf clubs & golf balls - 10% off

April 18th - May 1st Season Kick Off Sale: Hats & gloves – Buy one get 50% off second piece

May 2nd - May 8th Mother's Day Sale, Buy any 2 items get 30% Off the 2nd item
(must be the same category, higher price prevails, clubs & balls excluded)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2009 CLUB CHAMPIONS!

Congratulations to **Brian Balistee**, 2009 Great River Club Champion! Brian beat out a hard charging **Dr. Stewart Gross**. Brian joined **Dr. Neil Schwimer** and **Michael Weisman** who won their respective flights. Congratulations gentlemen!



TRUE SKILL OR PURE LUCK?

It is rare enough to record one hole-in-one in your lifetime, but what about 11 aces? On October 2nd, Great River member Seve Esposito hit the 11th hole-in-one of his career. What are the odds? Roughly, the odds of doing this are about a 143,000 to 1! Buy a lotto ticket Seve!

I think your chances are pretty good!



BMW OF BRIDGEPORT FORMS PARTNERSHIP WITH GREAT RIVER GOLF CLUB (CONT.)

In addition to becoming a new corporate member, BMW of Bridgeport will sponsor seven events at Great River next year, including 2 BMW Pro-Am Series Events with a \$10,000 purse.

Mark your calendars now for these great events:

BMW Pro-Am Series

Tuesday, May 11th
Tuesday, October 12th

BMW NCAA Division 1 Men's Invitational

April 12th & 13th

BMW Great River Junior Invitational Series

Thursday, July 13th
Tuesday, August 24th
Saturday, October 3rd

BMW Interclub Championship

Tuesday, August 17th

As a patron of Great River, look for special pricing when leasing or buying from BMW of Bridgeport in 2010. Special discount dates and BMW promotions are coming soon – look to BMW of Bridgeport when thinking of your next auto purchase. Special thanks to Mitch McManus and Tim Coughlin at BMW for their support.

Remember, if you're thinking about a BMW – **ask for Leo!**



GREAT EVENTS ALONG THE RIVER



MILFORD, CT (203) 876-8051

