



Happy Thanksgiving

Inside Shots & Tight Lies

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President's Post

Holiday Cheer

As I put together a slide show for the Holiday Party on December 15, I can't help but notice how much work our members are contributing to the Golf Club. I also notice that almost without fail, those members are smiling in the photos as they dig, weed, prune, whack, mow, bake, clean, and of course eat and drink. I'd like to think that the smiles are indications of our pleasure at being able to participate in keeping our Golf Club vital and our golf course well maintained. These work efforts also keep our dues low-another good reason to smile!

What else can we do to keep our course alive? Our membership campaign for 2013 includes a new Trial Membership category. The trial membership will be good for one year only, and the trial member will have all the benefits and responsibilities of membership except certificate ownership, all for the price of dues only (no initiation fee and no certificate.) We hope you encourage your non-member friends, neighbors and relatives to join us as trial members in 2013.

If you're not quite up to springing for someone's Trial Membership yourself, how about buying someone a \$99 punch card (good for 6 nine-hole rounds) or a \$49 card for juniors? Gift cards for merchandise are also available. If you're interested in any of these purchases, just write to us at ligc@rockisland.com and we'll get back to you right away.

Happy Holidays and hope to see you at the December 15 party.

Joyce

Remembering Ole

Ole Snoer died of a stroke on October 28th in Mexico. He had recently returned from a trip to Denmark where he celebrated his 80th birthday with his extended family. A familiar face at the LIGC, he will be sorely missed by us all.



Ole left Denmark to be a cook in the merchant navy when he was sixteen and traveled the world. He was a successful restaurateur in Tacoma and moved to Lopez with his wife Shirley in 2005. "He was an avid sailor, owned and sailed many of them over the years. He also loved this golf course and played often, it being one of the reasons he moved to Lopez," said his friend of 30 years Ed Gutkowski. "He also paired with me on a number of cooking events for the club, and he was always ready to do his part," said Ed.

"I had heard of Ole and Shirley before they moved to Lopez through Ed Gutkowski," said friend Geoff Coiley. "Ed had told me about the trips he and Martha used to make to Puerto Vallarta visiting the Snoers in their condo. Wonderful morning walks on the beach, then playing bridge until lunchtime when Ole would show his expert cooking skills. So when the Snoers decided to move to Lopez, I was delighted that they chose my neighborhood to build their house. I soon became good friends of Ole and golf buddies, playing with about the same ability/inability and just enjoying each other's company," said Geoff. "I was invited to many many wonderful meals at his home and enjoying to cook myself, I picked up many ideas on food and presentation from him. It was a shock to hear of his passing. By coincidence I was on the same ferry with Ole & Shirley on the first leg of their annual trip to Puerto Vallarta recently. Ole was in very good spirits and looking healthy & robust. We sat and chatted. As we parted I told Ole how much I was going to miss him while he was in Mexico. I didn't realize how profound that would be. He was such a good friend and neighbor and I certainly will miss him," said Geoff.

At the October General Membership Meeting this year Steve Bryson named a group of individuals who routinely volunteered their time to help make the course maintenance run smoothly. Ole of course was one of those people....he emptied the course garbage, sanded tee divots and picked up broken tees weekly.

The course and club were so important to Ole that his wife Shirley has requested that any remembrances be made in the form of cash donations to the Lopez Island Golf Club.

We were so lucky to have Ole as a member of our golfing family. There will be an empty spot in our hearts.

Ole's memorial will be at the golf club on Saturday Dec. 1st 2-4 pm.



Oct. 31 Workday

Final workday of the season lured just a few hardy souls who dredged out into the rain to work at the club. Alas, there were

some inside jobs to do and this crew did them willingly.

Lighting problems in both the cart barn and the clubhouse

were addressed by Mark Reisinger. The rest of the

crew headed to the locker barn where they made a

huge dent in cleaning it up. Also the on-course rest-

rooms were cleaned in preparation for being shut

down for the winter. Missing from the lunch pictures is

Charlie Janeway.

The Islander provided great roast beef sandwiches and chocolate chip cookies.

Thanks to all who showed up to help out on our final workday, and thank you to Bill Diller & the Islander for providing the lunch.



ALL Events Are Posted On Our Website

<http://lopezislandgolf.com/>

Organizing your bag?



These pictures were sent in by member Ron Metcalf....seems as how Ralph Bladt needed a little help from a friend to get his clubs out of his bag. Hmm, let's see.....too many clubs? Too small a bag? Might be time to reorganize .



Send Me Your NEWS...



Many of you go south during the winter to continue your golfing fun. If you have any newsworthy golf stories & pictures you'd like to share with the rest of the LIGC members, just send me a note.

Just double click on the link below, then hit allow.

chris.bangsund@lopezislandgolf.com



Thanksgiving Pie Making



This year a group of golfing ladies got together and made 8 pies for the Lopez Family



Resource Center. The LIFRC Thanksgiving Basket give-away benefits those families who are struggling during these hard economic times.

All the fixin's were donated by some of our lady members. A special thanks goes to: Beth Hughes, Pat Goodfellow, Joyce Kruihof, Mary Brown, Dodie Schiessl and Chris Bangsund.



We had a good ole' time dicing and slicing, mixing and rolling, and of course eating and chit chatting while the pies baked. We had a great time and we have to say those pies look darn good.



Rules Tip

Question: A player lifted his ball on the putting green and while waiting for his opponent or a fellow-competitor to play, dropped his ball off the green and played a few practice putts. What is the penalty?

Answer: Under Rule 7-2 the player lost the hole in match play or incurred a penalty of two strokes in stroke play.

Margie Zener

Blast from the Past



The very first LIGC clubhouse. 1968

*The first picture of a current member.
Jimmy Billesbach with Frankie & Bob
Billesbach. 1979*



*1972 Well here's a tradition we may have to resurrect.
Let's get those party hats out.....*

Does anyone recognize this group of ladies?

HURRY!!!

Tickets Sold thru November 30th

Fewer than 30 tickets have been sold

Your chances of winning are **great** !

\$450 value

Free Membership Raffle

2013

Tickets \$20

AT THE LIQUOR STORE M-Sat 10-7 Sun 12-5

DRAWING DEC. 1ST

Golfisms

All Square: A term used in match play to indicate that both teams or individuals have cheated on an equal number of holes.



LIGC 1958-1972

In the beginning.....

Wintertime is slow for golfing news, so I looked through some old photo albums at the club and I found this treasure. It is written by Mida & Fred Bartlett and was entitled Lopez Island Golf Club 1958-1972. It is amazing and I hope you enjoy it. I now know why there are tournaments named "McConaghy" and "Pilon". I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

DEDICATION

This booklet is dedicated to people: Like Mac McConaghy, the man with the vision; like the officers past and present; like the members, all of whom have served with and without pay - mowing, raking, scraping, digging, watering, planning - to make a Golf Course from a tract of Lopez land.

The dedicated author of this booklet has been careful to recount the true course of our Club's history. Perhaps it is in order here, however, to include a bit of biased Lopezian outlook and bespeak with modesty some of the simple delights that are part of the whole:

The Olympic Range that guards our southern boundary.

Our "coming of age" airport bordering the western boundary which affords us players a continuing excuse for taking our eyes off the ball.

Of lesser magnitude, Agaricus Compestris dotting the fairways in the Spring and Fall months for the gourmet mushroom gatherers and puff balls for the swingers who like a little harmless diversion during the game.

The Halfway House - a constant beacon of encouragement and comfort for retired members and beer drinkers.

Another unheralded attraction, the sump off hole 9 where balls with smiles or frowns can be socked unharmed or slammed "into".

And lastly, new locker rooms to house clubs and carts for members who have had it.

Lopez Island Golf Club

THE FIRST 14 YEARS OF THE LOPEZ ISLAND GOLF CLUB 1958 - 1972, incl.

B.J. (Mac) McConaghy, who conceived and organized the Lopez Island Golf Club, was a philanthropist. He loved People. He inspired a series of "Happy Times Supper Club" dances; was Master Chef at dozens of "Jungle Stew" parties; was interested in many community activities and deeded outright to the people of Lopez the property on which the Lopez Airstrip is located. He also directed its construction which was ready for use in one day. His generous nature partly explains why dues in the Golf Club are so low, probably the lowest in the country for comparable golf privileges. A quick look at other Island golf clubs in this area will prove this is true. The first knowledge that Mac was thinking about building a golf course came one Sunday when he showed up at our place and said he had heard talk about playing golf and wondered if I would look at the property adjoining the airstrip, which he owned, to see if it could be converted into a golf course. I couldn't get there fast enough. Mac's property, about 35 acres, was a hodgepodge of tall timber, partially cleared land and areas that were a jungle of second growth, brush and wild roses plus piles of field stones everywhere. It looked hopeless for a golf course. However, there was a narrow strip about 40 yards wide, part of an old barley field, alongside of the airstrip for some 300 yards and a few patches of open ground here and there which looked as if it might be useful. Perhaps it was the smile on Mac's face, like that of an expectant father, coupled with our inexperience, which encouraged us, so we started figuring and guessed we might work out six holes. By using the barley field for fairways in both directions and the few open spaces we finally laid out the six holes. The first tee was about where the ladies' ninth tee is today, only golfers faced toward the airstrip and toward the present second green, then went south to the present third green. From there the course traveled southward over the present fourth fairway, around the dogleg and back over the same fairway. The present fifth hole was completely overgrown with brush. The same could be said about the area now occupied by the first and ninth holes and most of the second fairway. Well, we wound up with six holes, and three times around made 18 holes. A few days later Mac started the laborious task of smoothing and rolling "fairways," raking, mowing and rolling "greens". He used coffee cans for cups, married them with flags made by Sally Shinneger and nailed to pine poles. In an incredibly short time Mac was ready and open for business. He was a happy man. There were few prospective members among Islanders who had played golf but fortunately there were several willing to try and Mac's enthusiasm was contagious. Soon after he opened up he announced some 20 members had joined.

Mac set up a Corporation, dated July 31, 1958, with the following Trustees: B.J. McConaghy, Clarice McConaghy, Elmon A Geneste, Atty., George Gorham and Cecil Orcutt.

Members pitched in and work moved along. We had hoped Mac would concentrate on six holes which he agreed to do until he learned, after a visit to Similk Beach, that a least nine and preferably eighteen holes constituted a "standard" course. This meant that we simply had to have at least nine. Mac worked night and day. The body part of an old surplus Army ammunition trailer (it's still around) was our first Club House located in the edge of the timber just south of the present seventh hole. Golf clubs and balls came mostly from Broadmoor and consisted mainly of used clubs members had traded in on new sets. The Pro at Broadmoor, who took a vicarious interest in Mac's progress, also sent a full set of standard cups. The contagion of golf was spreading and total membership jumped to 30. Mac worked long hours hacking out nine holes. He also started construction of a permanent Club House - first sending some fir logs to the local saw mill which returned lumber needed on a share crop basis. Building the Club House might have been a one-man job elsewhere but not on Lopez. Enough volunteer carpenters showed up one Sunday to complete the structure that same day urged along by their wives who showed up about noon with lunch and refreshments. All went well until time came to finish the roof. It was learned later that shake roof laying and plentiful refreshments don't mix. That's why today our Club House wears two shake roofs which incidentally, should last - let's say - several hundred years. When the nine holes were finished a curious puzzle of cross traffic resulted but who cared? We had nine holes and plenty of room to take a good cut at the ball. Suppose your ball did go in to the trees? When arrangement, or layout, of holes is recalled now it seems impossible that any number of golfers could have played around it without serious injury to someone occurring at least once a week, but none happened. When the brush and second growth were "dozed" off the present fifth hole the tee for the next hole was located alongside of the green and one drove back up the fourth fairway and then, if you had made two good shots, pitched over, or through, the trees to the present temporary sixth green. "Most interesting"! A monument to lost balls grew out of a tall stack of field stones off the first and ninth fairways and dumped near the present site of the eighth tee. Ida Aldrich nicknamed it "Mount Ida" in honor of the number of her shots which disappeared through its slopes. Ida didn't have a monopoly on this disaster and the "mount" was later removed.

At the height of this activity Mac suffered a heart attack and passed away. Clarice had taken an active part in the Club, but she preferred to turn over responsibility to the membership who she felt were deserving of the first opportunity to own and operate the golf course and enjoy its pleasures. So sale of the property and Corporation, at a most reasonable figure, was arranged and Club members have continued to own and operate it since that time. Finances were arranged through members buying stock in the Corporation. Mac had started planting the greens with bent grass, which involved much more work than it may seem. He had bought the grass seed and had actually planted a few greens so we continued where he left off. Fortunately, we located a nearby supply of sandy loam near where the "Halfway House" is located and, by hauling and screening a few truck loads of the soil, we laid a reasonably good basis for a putting surface. A good example of getting things done in Lopez Style" with characteristic flavor came after we had seeded the fifth green and no rain would fall - it just wouldn't rain! Of course, the seed wouldn't germinate and worse a strong wind might spring up and blow seed, peat moss and finely sifted soil into the boondocks. We had no water or water carting equipment, but Otis Perkins came to our rescue by training the first crew of volunteer firemen on how to handle the hose on the fire truck, he had made through watering the green every Sunday for awhile. A greens-mower, fairway gang mower, genuine flags and sit-down tee benches were eventually added. The latter came from Hi Horne's basement and were originally church pews. We are still using them. Most of the hazards of cross traffic were eliminated, particularly after completion of the present sixth hole which was cut through solid timber. Fortunately, there were enough saw logs and piling we could sell to pay for cost of bulldozing and knocking down the timber. The course suffered the usual results of being located in the country like periodic visits from youngsters who enjoyed driving their bugs around the course at night and sliding tires here and there, mostly on the greens. Once in a while a herd of cows helped cut up the greens or put fertilizer where we didn't need it. Then there was Halloween too! It was about this time that the membership conceived a program of semi-annual "Field Days" - a day in early Spring and one during the Fall when everyone turned out with rakes, shovels, or "what-have-you" and cleaned up the course. We usually finished in ample time to have some monkey business and a pot luck supper. Widening out the present seventh fairway and lengthening the hole by moving the tee back eliminated the last remaining really bad condition of cross traffic. Play on the third hole was also greatly improved. One of the biggest steps forward was completion of a drilled well and sprinkling system, furnishing irrigation for all the greens. The project was planned and executed by officers and members of the Bob Gallenger 1969 - 1970 administration. The year 1970 saw members putting on green greens - all nine of them - all year long. Of more recent date, construction-wise, was completion by the 1970 officers of a sizeable storage building for rolling equipment, golf carts, pull carts and golf clubs with indoor plumbing facilities. The principal reason the Lopez Golf Club has been able to grow and continue to improve against severe handicaps is that its membership has always provided a constant source of volunteer help and officers capable of planning and executing major projects at little or no cost to the Club. Of comparatively recent date has been the addition of professional help - not only for maintaining and improving the course, but for teaching members how to play this great game - May and Al Pilon.

Interest in the Club has also widened into active participation in Inter-Island and Inter-County tournaments with Orcas, San Juan and Holmes Harbor Clubs - both for men's and women's divisions. Also frequent local tournaments have been established as well as Pot-Luck parties and festivities at the Inn. There have been many members who contributed long hours, expensive equipment, or who paid for improvements but to name all of them would be next to impossible and at the risk of overlooking some. Suffice to say that in addition to the Trustees, who have and are still providing excellent management, the members who have served as President of the Club since its inception are: Freem Aldrich, Vesty Kramer, Swede Sletto, Bob Helgesen, Jay Conner, Bob Gallenger, Peggy Lott and Fred Dybwad.

As we go to press it should be mentioned that even more improvements have been accomplished or are in process - during the present administration of Fred Dybwad. Two new greens ready to open this year, all the fairways have been sprayed for weeks and a new addition added on to the Club House which more than triples the floor space and provides a sizeable window looking out on the first tee and the ninth green.

Without exception each administration has, in its time accomplished major projects of considerable value to the course and organization. For the most part, most or all of the manual effort has been provided by the membership.

Yes, the future too, looks bright!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Remember to check out the **EVENTS CALENDAR** in the **DIRECTORY** on the **WEBSITE** for specifics on all the events. <http://lopezlandgolf.com/>

Dec. Events

1st: Ole Snoer Memorial	2-4 pm
4th: Holiday decorating party	noon
11th: Ladies' catered holiday luncheon	12-2 pm
15th: Golf Club Holiday Party/Dinner	6pm

Decorating Party Dec. 4

Come join the ladies after golf to decorate the clubhouse, have some soup and bread, spiced cider, play some music and get into that good ole' holiday spirit. Timing approximately noon. Bring any extra decorations you might have around the house.

Golf Club Holiday Party Dec. 15 6pm

Organized by Miki & James Straughan

Catered Dinner by the Galley \$20 pp

Appetizer: Crostini - Brie cheese with chipotle, raspberry and candied pecan

Dinner: Beef Stroganoff, rice, salad (vegetarian option with prior notice)

Dessert: Swedish cream

The best decorated place setting wins a prize

BYOB

Games/Prizes

White Elephant gift exchange

Power Point Slide Show of the 2012 events

Sign up at the club or contact Miki at

mikijgs@rockisland.com

Ladies Holiday Luncheon December 11th Noon

Catering by Peter @

Lopez Island Catering

Bring a food item for a gift exchange (homemade or not) and another for the Food Bank

Sign up at the club or email

joyce.kruihof@lopezlandgolf.com



Chipshots: The Newsletter Nov. 2012 Issue

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