

Christian Golf Club Of Central California

April 2005

There's nothing better than a pristine spring day to play golf, unless you add all of our godly *friends* in the C.G.C.C.C. The encouragement we get from each other is really special. Just last month, as an example, as I faced a formidable chip on the 18th at hole at Fig Garden, over a trap, to a green running away from me, my ol' buddy Brad Fry, as he stood there watching me, (as a vulture eyes his prey), was kind enough to **REMIND ME!!!!** that there was the *lake* behind the green. After walking off the green with a bogey due to an unplayable lie up against the pilings of *said lake*, I was sure to *thank* him, in my own *encouraging* way, for the timely tip. Friendship doesn't get much better than that!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Kidding aside, it really was awesome to see so many new faces playing as guests and new members, along with our veteran *friends*!!

As much as I enjoyed the company of our foursome, I've got to tell you, the *sadist* who set the pins on Saturday should be given the "*Marquis de Sade*" award. We would have had better luck putting down the face of K-2. On number 8 Doug Nelson was seen putting on ice crampons just to hold himself in place as he putted!

Aside from the obvious #&%*#@# **ANGER** at least I felt about the pin placements, (*I could have putted just as well with a snake in my hands*) there were those in my group who *obviously* managed them quite well.

The tag team of Doug Nelson, and yes you guessed it, Daniel Cowherd, ran away from the competition with an *astounding* net 60 in the N.C.G.A qualifier to *again* represent The C.G.C.C.C. These two guys are aiming for the Holy Grail of golf, the *Grand Slam!!* These two guys are to the C.G.C.C.C what Annika and Tiger are to their respective tours! **I guess it's just sheer envy!**

Tulare Results

2 man team results-

1st team: Stephen Hamett / Jim Moore net 57
2nd team: Sharon Blakely / Bob Blakely net 58
3rd team: Daniel Cowherd / Doug Nelson net 59

Low Gross-

Mike Gerosa

Low Net-

Dan Cowherd

NCGA qualifier-

Doug Nelson
Dan Cowherd net 60

Over 55-

Mike Gerosa
Leonard Garcia net 62

Masters Trivia

- 1) Who holds the record for the largest margin of victory?
 - a) Jack Nicklaus
 - b) Tiger Woods
 - c) Phil Mickelson
 - d) Arnold Palmer

- 2) In 2004, Phil Mickelson won his first Masters on his _____ try
 - a) 11th
 - b) 12th
 - c) 14th
 - d) 16th

- 3) In 2003, Mike Weir captured his first Masters with a _____ on the first playoff hole.
 - a) Birdie
 - b) Par
 - c) Bogey
 - d) Eagle

- 4) When did Augusta National open?
 - a) 1929
 - b) 1931
 - c) 1932
 - d) 1934

- 5) The fifth hole at Augusta National is known as _____
 - a) Magnolia
 - b) Flowering Peach
 - c) Blooming Onion
 - d) Azalea

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Membership

The membership drive that started a few months ago is in full stride as several guy's are really going after the free tournament round for every 3 new members.

It appears that one of the Fry boys is in the lead and it ain't Brad!!

"Blessings From God"

When was the last time you dove into the book of Deuteronomy, and chapter 28 to be specific? It talks about God's blessings for those who stay *obedient* to Him.

What's significant is that these blessings are for us *now! today! on earth!* not just in Heaven!!

The Links Letter

I hope you each had an opportunity to look thru the "Links Letter" which was passed out at our Fig Garden tournament. It is now a 50-60 page gem that is an awesome present to a non- Christian golf buddy or buddette. Great outreach idea! Go to web-site link for subscription.

Origin of the C.G.C.C.C.

Thought some of you might like to know the history of the “*Christian Golf Club of Central California.*”

In 1989 four of us, Don Randolph (now living in Arizona), Jeff Kollenkark, Dave Angel and myself, had a passion for this beloved game. Additionally, we had a desire to minister to others about the good news of Christ, but were cowards to accomplish it the traditional way. Out of this inherent fear, God showed us an alternative method, that of using the non threatening game of golf to minister to those not yet saved, yet sharing our passion for this great game. It turned out to be a winning formula. Praise God!!

What was really important to us was offering a quality club environment, offering monthly tournaments with prizes, and pre tournament breakfasts with encouraging speakers who could share God’s message and create a spark in the hearts of our participants. An additional priority was the aspect of fellowship. Our intent was to create an environment that people wanted to be a part of.

Our first effort was to set up a table at People’s Church. We found 15 new members there and we were off and running. In fairly short order we had grown to over 100 members representing several churches in the valley and the rest is history. Our membership is continuing to grow as the word spreads.

God has surely blessed our club over the years. The incredible friendships that have been established, the great courses we’ve been able to play, and the outreach opportunities we’ve had the privilege to be a part of have made every effort put forth a true blessing.

We are eternally grateful for each of you, and we would ask your participation in our efforts to spread the word.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ: 1)B 2)B 3)C 4)C 5)A

What About Money

A pervasive deception in our nation today is that success equals wealth. The truth is, becoming the person God wants you to be and achieving the goals He sets for your life make you successful.

Wealth has virtually nothing to do with your becoming the person God wants you to be. And wealth, solely for the sake of acquiring wealth, is not a goal that God sets for anyone’s life. You will find no admonition of God in the Scriptures for you to seek and strive to become rich materially.

Does this mean that a rich person is not successful in God’s eyes?

Does it mean that God never blesses a person with material wealth or with nice possessions? No.

It means that wealth is not the gauge by which we should determine a person’s success. God has an entirely different standard and means of measurement.

God is never impressed by monetary wealth. He is impressed by our obedience, our faith, and our reliance upon Him to guide us in all matters. Charles Stanley “*Success God’s Way*”

Fig Garden Tourney

Our tourney at Fig Garden in March was a combo as it was a 4 man qualifier for the NCGA, and our regular club tourney as well.

Results for the NCGA portion of the tourney were as follows:

Qualifying team- Mike Gerosa
Daniel Cowherd
Doug Nelson
Roger Tarpin

Results for the club tourney were as follows:

1st place- 121 Stan Day
Jeff Gileo
Greg Knod
Sharon Blakely (I hear she had no help from the guys!!!)

2nd place- 122 Barron Gage
Brian Wade
George Wortley
John Gallagher

3rd place- 123 Alwyn Stanford
Andy Batson
Christopher Short
Dennis Hammond

Poppy Hills

There is still room available for our Poppy Hills tourney. We are limited to the first 40 members who sign up, and after that if it doesn't get filled then it will be open to guests.

For those who haven't played Poppy, it is without question the premier course we play all year. It is one of the courses used for the AT&T Pro Am.

I am also hearing that there may be a shortage of available rooms. So hook up a room early.

Great Golf Quotes

"Talking to a golf ball won't do you any good unless you do it while your opponent is teeing off." *Bruce Lansky*

"If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball." *Jack Lemmon*

"When I'm on a golf course and begins to rain and lightening, I hold up my one iron, caus' I know even God can't hit a one iron." *Lee Trevino*

"Swing easy, hit hard!"

Membership

If the information is accurate that I have recently received, we will be needing a new membership chairman.

Barron Gage who has done such a terrific job for us in this area is apparently leaving Fresno for a new job opportunity. Barron has been a faithful member for a long time and will be sorely missed.

Barron, we wish you the very best in your new endeavor. We will hook up again.