



*1st quarter 2011 newsletter of the Christian Golf Club of Central CA*

**Our 2010 CGCCC gifting to Dakota House:**

One reason that it has been such a pleasure to be a part of the Christian Golf Club for so many years is that, besides the great golf and fellowship, we are a club that gives money to great organizations doing God's work. In the past, our club has donated money to Valley Teen Ranch and Hines Hospice, among others. In 2010, our club board chose to give \$600 to Dakota House in Fresno. Dakota House is an inner city organization that for the last decade has been providing a safe and loving place for children to go after school. Most of these children are single parent kids that come to Dakota House where they receive a warm hug, are helped with homework, play games and have a snack. They then gather around and close each day praying for one another. Below is the Mission Statement of Dakota House.

**"To bring the light and love of Jesus Christ into the neighborhood and the lives of our families by ministering to their spiritual, emotional, and physical needs, and to arm and equip them to carry His light beyond our community."**

This is a great ministry and I am thankful that our club is able to help Dakota House financially to continue God's work in Fresno. In March of this year, Channel 24 news did a report on Dakota House and you can view it by going to the following link.

<http://www.ksee24.com/news/video/RC-4PM---CLU-119014754.html>

### **Recap – Ridge Creek, 1/29/2011**

Our first CGCCC tournament of the 2011 year opened up at Ridge Creek Golf Course in Dinuba on a cold morning in January. Fifty-six players, who couldn't wait for the golf season to begin, played in this 4-Man-2 Best Ball format. Daniel Dasko from the Ukraine, blessed the group with his singing, and told the story of coming with his family to this country. Mr. Dasko gives Christ the all the praise and glory for making it possible for him to be able to raise his family in the America.

The top three teams of the 4-Man-2 Best Ball is as follows:

- 1st Ken Koop, Richard Henderson, Terry Markus, Ron McClain 127
- 2nd Vic Araujo, Bob Albertson, Mike Gerosa, Daniel Cowherd 132
- 3rd Leonard Garcia, Christopher Rawn, Miles Baty, Greg Stafford 135

CGCCC will send the below two teams to the Two Man NCGA Qualifier. The 3rd Team is an alternate.

- 1st Team Mike Gerosa, Daniel Cowherd (card off) 65
- 2nd Team Ken Koop, Richard Henderson 65
- 3rd Team RJ Luna, Mike Leal 66

### **Recap - Avila Beach and Black Lake 2/25-26/2011:**

KnuckleHeads. That's right, KnuckleHeads. That's the only way to can describe the 40 some-odd Christian Golf Clubbers, of which I was one, that braved the high winds and heavy, heavy rains at our Friday Avila Beach tournament. We must really love this game. The next day at Black Lake, we were treated to a mostly sunny, breezy, cool day, which finished up with a nice hail storm.

Over the years, our club has been truly blessed with good weather on our annual February trip to the central coast, but the last two years have been different. With the rain-out of a year ago, this year's Friday round was indeed laughable. Water dripping off your hat during a swing, clubs slipping out of your hands, gusts of wind pushing your ball off course, and putting through standing and flowing water on the greens was all experienced that day. Not to mention, that the scorecards were like wet Kleenex tissue after 3 holes. We could only shake our heads, laugh and drudge on. High praise needs to go to tournament chairman, Daniel Cowherd, for him mixing and matching the group's right before we teed off, as there were many players who were late or didn't make it at all.

Playing in this weather on Friday, it reminded one player in our group, KC Dickie, of a past Club Championship tournament back in the 90's, and how he was the leader in the club house after a sparkling round in the rain at Valley Oaks. The weather got worse and the round was eventually cancelled due to it not being a fair test for everyone. KC claimed that the "Rivletts" of rain water that he experienced on the greens were no less than that of anyone else's rivletts, and that the scores should stand. The tournament committee disagreed and cancelled all scores. Most nights KC is able to go to sleep without thinking of rivletts.

Winning Two Best Ball scores for the Avila Beach-Rain, Surf and Wind tourney are:

David Rey and Ruben Rey tied at net 6 under par, and won in a tiebreaker.

Bill Horg and Jerry Neff tied with net 6 under par.

Rick Ellison and Don Witt came in third at 5 under par.

Bob Albertson and Daniel Cowherd came in fourth at 4 under par.

Winning Two Best Ball scores at Blacklake were:

Norm Weins and Mario Gonzales won in a playoff at net 12 under par.

Vic Araujo and Ray Goins came in tied at 12 under.

Jeff Ragan and Wynn Eugene Higley shot net 8 under par to win a third place playoff.

Bob Albertson and Daniel Cowherd also shot net 8 under par to take fourth.

Winners of the Two man 9-hole Scramble at Blacklake were:

Bill Horg and Doug Nelson won with a score of 30.7.

Ruben Rey and David Rey took second with a 31.6.

Taking third place were Brad Fry and Ron Gonzales with a 32.7 score.

### **Recap - Fig Garden 3/26/2011:**

We had rain, wind, mud, and cold. For the second month in a row the brave men of the Christian golf club battled the elements. Hey, the good news is we didn't have to drive over to the coast to find the weather. We got it right here at home! This storm couldn't dampen our spirits, though. The hearty men

of CGCCC attacked the course with resolve and determination. There were even a few who managed to play some decent golf before it was all over.

The fellowship and camaraderie began early with our pre-tournament prayer meeting. We welcomed our guests and reunited with old friends. It was great to see Chief Dyer back on the course. Chief, thank you and your officers for what you do for our city. We also got to hear from Bill Phillips as he shared a small bit of his faith and what our game means to him. We look forward to hear more from Bill in the months to come.

After the pleasantries were over, it was out to the course for the real fun. All things considered, there was some decent golf played. The two-man best ball format produced the winning team of Brad Fry and Jerry Neff at an impressive –12. Ken Koop and Doug Gray were a close second at 10 under. Third place was awarded in a tiebreaker to Ron Nitz and Doug Nelson who were matched by Bob Albertson and Joseph Vic Araujo coming in at 8 under. Ron and Doug also won the Senior Qualifier with their net score of 64. There were also some impressive individual performances as well. Doug Nelson won low net in the first flight with a 68. Daniel Cowherd posted a net 71 to take the second flight. The third flight went to Mario Gonzales with a net 74. Rick Mathers posted a net 76 to take the 4<sup>th</sup> flight. Congratulations to all of the tournament winners!

As always, poor weather was overcome by fellowship, friendly competition, and the fact that all we do is to give glory and honor to our Lord and Savior. Hopefully we will see everyone out next month at Riverbend and until then “Praise God”.

### **How Important is Prayer?**

First of all, let me state unequivocally that prayer is the most powerful weapon/tool we have in the Christian quiver, yet the most underutilized in the church today. We’re all pretty adept at defining what prayer is; simply put, communicating with our Creator. Applying prayer is an entirely different matter. If we’re lacking power and intimacy in our walk with the Lord today, we need to ask ourselves how much time am I spending communicating with my Creator thru prayer and time in the Word each day.

Daily prayer allows us the humility of confessing our sin and asking God to help us overcome that sin. It allows us to unburden ourselves from the effects of sin. Psalm 32:5 states; ***“I will confess my transgressions to the Lord and you forgave the guilt of my sin.”*** ***Only God can help us turn from our sins*** and He needs to hear our plea to repent.

Daily prayer is an act of worship. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says; ***“Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ.”*** Daily prayer is an act of obedience that brings God joy to see His children following His commands.

Daily prayer allows us to acknowledge who is really in control of our lives. 1 Chronicles 29:11 states; ***“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory, majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours. You are exalted as head over all.”*** Each day, with great reverence, we should acknowledge how great and awesome He truly is.

Lastly, please understand how badly God desires to open the floodgates of heaven and take care of our needs through prayer, but we first need to make the time each day to praise Him, to worship Him, to humble ourselves before Him. May God richly bless each of you as you seek His face more and more.

K.C.