



JUNE 2009 NEWSLETTER

REVERSING THE MESSAGES

...through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 3:10, ESV)

Let's just say you gained an audience with Phil Mickelson. Let's say you had a chance to instruct him a bit in his golf game. Let's consider what you might offer him.

A funny thought, isn't it? Though we might sit around on a Sunday afternoon and "tell" Phil a few things on the other side of the TV screen, if we actually stood side-by-side with him, wedges in hand, anything we dared to speak would have a question mark attached. We would be doing the asking, not the telling.

The same approach makes sense in the presence of an angel, no? Especially an archangel. Not much chance of our presuming to tell those guys what's up. We hardly dare to speak the truth to a demon!

But Paul wrote to the Ephesians (and to us, their spiritual progeny) that as the church of Jesus Christ we have much to reveal to those in the heavenly realms. How can this be? Dare we say that we have the insight of an angel, or the knowledge of a demon, either of which possesses perspective beyond the stretch of time and space?

No, likely we do not have such knowledge. But what we do possess as Christ's church is a relationship with our Savior unlike that even of the angels. They are His creation, as are we; but we are also His bride, His *agapetos*, His beloved. By His death, He has made us one with Him.

What Paul has written is that those rulers and authorities in the heavenly places simply did not see this coming. Both the angels and the demons, Scripture informs us, know who Jesus is—the living Son of God. What they did not know, as far as we can gather, is that God would unveil "the mystery hidden for ages": that all believing people, be they Jewish or not, would be brought near to God through the death and resurrection of Christ.

You may think you "go to church" as one faithfully committed, but don't limit yourself to such mundane living. Know that we *are* the church, a raucous thunderclap of God's greatest plan, loved and enabled by His power!

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Jeff Hopper

July 3, 2009

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PHEASANT RUN:

A hearty group of golfers took to the links in April at one of my favorite courses, Pheasant Run. The day was great, the conditions were good and all had a good time. The competition was fierce but the team of Norm Weins (he was on a win streak), Dale Richey, Luis Medina, and Mike Leal shot a combined 128 for the victory. Three teams hotly contested second place at 129. The tiebreaker went to the team of Frank Vargas, Ray Tarvin, Larry Whitney, and Jerry Neff. Doug Nelson took the individual honors with a net 66. Nice job Doug! As always, it was a wonderful time of fellowship.

DISCOVERY BAY:

The month of May took the club to a new course on the schedule. Discovery Bay in Stockton proved to be a formidable challenge. The group that made the trip spent most of the morning driving through the rain, warming up in the rain, and teeing off in the rain. Water was everywhere, including falling from the sky and lining most fairways and greens (the team of Klein and Richey were the most waterlogged). The rain did however eventually cease and some great golf ensued. The two-man best ball format produced four teams with a net score of 62. The tiebreaker went to Roger Tarpin and Doug Nelson. The team of Bob Alberstson and Terry Markus finished second with Mike Gerosa and Daniel Cowherd in third. Bob Alberston took the individual honors with a net 65. Congratulations to all!

RIVERSIDE:

Our club championship began in June at a familiar venue to many, Riverside golf course. The “Big Muni” was up to the challenge as it was in very good shape a few weeks after the city championships. Our championship was divided into three flights with the first round at Riverside and the concluding round to be played in July at Sierra Meadows. The turnout was great and the competition was excellent. In flight 1, Norm Weins (I’m telling you the guy is hot this year) led all net scores with a 68, followed closely by Bill Horg’s 69 and Joseph Vic Araujo’s 70. Bill Horg’s gross score of 76 was good enough to lead that division with Vic’s 79 and Norm’s 80 not far behind. In flight 2, Don Sadler led all with a net score of 68. Ryan Roloff and Miles Baty gave chase with a 74, and 75 respectively. In flight 3, Ruben Rey posted a net 68 for the best of the day. He was followed by Jerry Neff’s 70 and Leo Alonzo’s 72. All of this sets up for a great conclusion in July with a combination of next month’s scores and the season point totals to determine our club champions!

Now for a little fun:

This was sent to me by club member, Bradley Fry;

Don't tell me your age; you probably would tell a falsehood anyway -but the Golf Man will know!

YOUR AGE BY Golf MATH

This is pretty neat.

DON'T CHEAT BY SCROLLING DOWN FIRST!

It takes less than a minute.

Work this out as you read.

Be sure you don't read the bottom until you've worked it out!

This is not one of those waste of time things, it's fun.

1. First of all, pick the number of times a week that you would like to play golf (more than once but less than 10)
2. Multiply this number by 2 (just to be bold)
3. Add 5
4. Multiply it by 50 -- I'll wait while you get the calculator
5. If you have already had your birthday this year add 1759. If you haven't, add 1758.
6. Now subtract the four digit year that you were born.

You should have a three digit number

The first digit of this was your original number
(I.e., how many times you want to play golf each week).

The next two numbers are

YOUR AGE! (Oh YES, it is!!!!)

THIS IS THE ONLY YEAR (2009) IT WILL EVER WORK, SO SPREAD IT AROUND WHILE IT LASTS.

THE RULES OF GOLF:

Rule 26 Water Hazards (including Lateral Water Hazards)

If a ball is in a *water hazard* or if it is known or virtually certain that a ball that has not been found is in a *water hazard* (whether the ball lies in water or not), the player may **under penalty of one stroke:**

- a. Play a ball as nearly as possible at the spot from which the original ball was last played; or
- b. Drop a ball behind the *water hazard*, keeping the point at which the original ball last crossed the margin of the *water hazard* directly between the hole and the spot on which the ball is dropped, with no limit to how far behind the *water hazard* the ball may be dropped; or
- c. **As additional options available only if the ball last crossed the margin of a *lateral water hazard*,** drop a ball outside the *water hazard* within two club-lengths of and not nearer the hole than (i) the point where the original ball last crossed the margin of the *water hazard* or (ii) a point on the opposite margin of the *water hazard* equidistant from the hole.

When proceeding under this Rule, the player may lift and clean his ball or substitute a ball.

“Taken from the “The Rules of Golf” 2008-2009”

Most *water hazards* are marked by yellow stakes or a yellow line. *Lateral water hazards* are usually marked by red stakes or a red line. *Hazards* marked with both colors may be played either way.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS:

July 11	Sierra Meadows (Final round of the club championship)
August 28	Eagle Ridge
August 29	Poppy Hills
September 19	Madera Muni