

CHIP SHOTS

GENEVA MONTH

SHORT APPROACH – The field is nearly set. Current count has 43 golfers scheduled to play. One more participant would be ideal. The first tee at Chardon Lakes awaits our charge. As always, the ceremonial first foursome consisting of Mini-Legends Jerry Graves and Jack Berger join Legends Gary Glanzman and Vince Gatto as they lead the way starting at high noon on July 22. The registered 43 are;

Dagon Abdon	Jacob Davis	Don Jander	Mike Pagnanelli
Todd Abdon	Pat Dorn	Mark Johnson	Blaise Plageman
Frank Alexander	Shawn Dorn	Rick Jonas	Dick Plageman
Ray Ballard	Fritz Ford	Kerry Joyce	Tom Prunte
Jack Berger	Vince Gatto	Ben Lloyd	Bob Rutherford
Tim Black	Gary Glanzman	Craig Marshall	Mark Spangler
Tom Black	Greg Gudenkauf	Gary Mazzocco	Ron Szymczak
Bill Boggess	Jerry Graves	Matt Mazzocco	Paden West
Keith Boggess	Jay Green	Nate McCorkle	Mark Kovachy
Nick Boggess	Richie Heskett	Tony McGuckin	Sam Kovachy
Jared Boling	Tim Hughes	Steve Miller	????

Friday's green fees are the responsibility of each linkster. The price of golf for the remainder of the weekend is \$190 per person. That is an increase from the past five years. Don't blame me. The effort to keep the previous financial duties are simply impossible unless I hit the lottery or a casino windfall. Covid then petroleum spiked inflation. The cost of merchandise and shipping is dollars higher. And the price of beef? MOMMA MIA! Silver cost less than meat. I am working on a plan to cut expenses next year. Billy Boggess has a ranch. His spread is more like Green Acres than Yellowstone. However, it is a piece of land with deer, chickens, pigs, and steers. Do you see where I am going with this?

GAMES WE PLAY – Included in the \$190 are green fees for the rest of the weekend and the ante to our numerous golf games. Damn-near too many games to mention but I will do my best. The Gavin Cup Tournament starts on Friday. This two man team game plays three days and the best low net for the weekend cashes plus receives the trophy to show off his accomplishment. Prying the hardware from defending champion Craig Marshall's arms to present to the next Gavin Cup Champions may require a chisel and crowbar. You would think he was in possession of the Holy Grail. Gavin Cup partners will be randomly selected Thursday Night long after handicaps have been established. Besides round one of the Gavin Cup play, a Skins game will take place at Chardon Lakes with over \$400 in the pot making each skin a nice payout. The Skins competition for Saturday's round will split the field into "A" and "B"

categories according to handicaps. Five designated holes will be part of a Skill Shot venture. These holes have been strategically chosen. Of course, if Mini-Legend Jack Berger is in the first group, he takes the liberty of picking his own holes. Scheduled are two Closest to the Pin (No.3 and No.16), Closest to the Pin on Second Shot (No. 13), Longest Made First Putt (No.9), and Longest Drive (No.11). Don Jander, after a two year hiatus, is back to prove he hits the farthest drive. Hard to believe that skinny runt hits the ball that far. Oops! Did I put a target on Jander's back? After Saturday's early round we will engage in a nine hole Scramble. Many years this is the highlight of the golf weekend. A Scramble Committee works diligently to give no team a distinct advantage. The weekend finishes on Sunday with the 4 man Best Ball match. It is the biggest payout of the weekend. The teams are drafted at the Commissioner's Dinner. "B" and "C" players pick this year.

CHUCK WEBB – The first day the Geneva Open set foot on the hallowed grounds of Geneva-on-the-Lake Municipal Golf Course was like a perfect match on E-Harmony. We instantly took a liking to the course and the Geneva staff embraced us. The outreached arms of Chuck Webb was a hospitable welcome that reigned genuine. Mr. Webb was the course manager and golf pro for the first 23 years of our visits. I caught up with Chuck last month. He is 73 years old and lives on 10 acres in Harpersfield near Debonne' Vineyard. Long retired, he left the Geneva course after 25 years when he became pension eligible. His personality made him well liked and popular which was instrumental in landing the 1987 Ohio Open for the Geneva course. He learned the game of golf at the old Ashtabula Country Club. A new owner changed the private course to public then the name to the Harbor Club. Struggling to make ends meet they asked Chuck to run the facility. The Geneva Open played two Friday rounds at the Harbor Club but even Chuck Webb magic could not save it. Health reasons keep Chuck from playing golf these days. The rent from five apartments help stuff extra cash in his pockets although often land lord duties become full time employment. I took the liberty to invite Chuck to the Commissioner's Dinner. For the old, old time Geneva brothers his nostalgic visit would rattle our experiences down memory lane. Many of those experiences Chuck will hear for the first time. Here is hoping he accepts my invitation.

LAST CALL – The time to play is a gap wedge away. Venison smokies are drying, the apple shine is fermenting, golf swings are tweaking. All the Committees are feverishly at work completing their assignments. Familiar faces will gather around No.1 tee at Chardon Lakes on July 22. Still attending after 45 years are Legends Gary Glanzman, Frank Alexander, Mini-Legend Jerry Graves plus Mike Sachs. Three make their sophomore visit, the Doobie Brothers Richie Heskett and Rick Jonas as well as Las Vegas inhabitant Greg Gudenkauf. Two rookies join the field, a Father-Son combo named Mark and Sam Kovachy from the Cleveland area. As always, it is a star studded roster. Friday's pairings will be released shortly then Saturday's Scramble teams will follow. As soon as I receive them I will pass them to you via e-mail. We will then be locked and loaded for Geneva festivities. You would think after 45 years I would not need much preparation. Just last week I was out practicing when I was stopped by one of Cleveland's finest. He asked "you drinking?" I replied "Are you buying?" We laughed and laughed. I had a hard time getting my wife to pay bail.

