



MEN'S STAG NIGHT!

December 5, 2007
6 p.m.

All games will begin at 8 p.m.

A pool table will be available,
so all you pool sharks bring your sticks!

\$10 dinner buffet

Drink Specials!

For more information
please call Rob (248-2702)
or Damian (245-2966)

Welcome New Members!

Richard Edwards..... Proprietary
Charles Archambault..... Proprietary

Membership Status (as of November 21, 2007)

Proprietary/Corp-Primary	301
Non-Resident	17
Social.....	26
Briarwood Subdivision	20
Founder	9
TOTAL.....	373

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News from the MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Sean Sullivan, CGCS

I want to begin with a note of thanks. The Greens Committee and I have appreciated your compliments about the course conditions. Especially rewarding has been your approval of the greens and green speeds. When we hear "Briarwood has the best greens in the state", that makes us smile and know our hard work is paying off. So, thank you for your kind words. We still have much to do and more hard work ahead... that is the nature of the golf course business.

Now that winter has arrived we begin the long wait for another golf season. The course is entering the winter months in good condition. We should see the results of that as the turf wakes up next spring. During the winter we will continue to work on various projects as weather allows.

#4 & #3 Tee Box Improvements

The Greens Committee has selected #4 and #3 tee box to be our area of irrigation improvement. As in the past, we will be adding extra heads for improved coverage. We will also be doing some earth work to change cart traffic wear problems, improve play, and move valve boxes out of the fairway. The result will be better turf and improved lies in the desired landing area on #4. We will complete this project as soon as the weather allows.

Major Project: Pump Replacement

A major irrigation project we face is the replacement of the pump station at the lower lake. Those pumps have served us well for over 20 years. For a little history, you should know that those pumps were purchased used (not new) when the course was built. The pump station was retro-fitted with a re-built control panel in 1999. Periodically, the

motors and pumps have been pulled and sent out for service and repairs. The last time was 3 winters ago. At that time, the pumps were rebuilt as well as they could be with our available financial resources. At the time we knew the pumps would not be 100%. The internals were very worn and the externals were corroded away. We have since run nearly 350 million gallons of water through the pumps. The pumps now run at 60% efficiency. We missed 12 watering cycles in July from protective shutdowns due to low-pressure flows. During July, August and September your crew worked through many nights "babying" the pumps along to irrigate the course. Doing so helped us not lose ground on our improved turf conditions. In addition, the skid the pumps are attached to is rusted through. Pipes connecting the pumps to the irrigation system are corroded. A stainless steel "band-aid" was put on the corroded leaks. The pump house floor has settled resulting in the pumps being bottomed out on the wet well instead of the floor. This is not a good situation.

The bottom line is this pump station has finally reached the end of its useful life. It now needs to be replaced. We have two comprehensive bids from reputable vendors. Both bids are for complete replacement of the pump station including up-to-date pump technology. The Greens Committee's advice, and I concur, is that this is not the place to scrimp on a major improvement. Your Board has the committee's recommendation to replace the pump station. The result will be greater pump efficiency, less electricity costs, and more time for

the grounds crew to spend on other important projects.

Additional Projects

Additional course improvements you will see and enjoy include:

- Reshaping some fairways to expand landing areas, create risk/reward situations, and enhance the visual appeal of the course
- Completion of cart paths, irrigation, and trees at #11 green/#12 tee complex
- Continued work on our bunkers firming up the sand, drainage, and adjacent turf conditions
- Tee box improvements and varied tee marker locations
- Cart path improvements and bridge approaches in selected areas

Winter Work

Our Maintenance Department is now down to three full-time employees. Bad winter weather will bring us inside to work on the equipment. Brian Hoban, Equipment Manager, is factory trained by our equipment manufacturers and does most of the equipment repairs. Rick Welton, Assistant Superintendent, and myself work on planning for the next season, ordering supplies, small equipment/accessories cleaning and repairs, and inventory of tools and equipment. When the weather does warm up, Scotty Keim joins us in tree trimming and debris clean up. We also spend time improving our training and knowledge to bring you a better golf experience.

The course needs a winter rest. When the days get longer, we watch for that first hint of green grass. We will be ready to mow. I hope you are ready to play on an even better Briarwood.

Wishing you a very Happy Holiday Season!

News from the PRO SHOP

Rob Jones

Well I guess we were spoiled long enough with great fall weather because as I write this on the day before Thanksgiving it is 18 degrees and snowing. It's hard to believe that we had golfers wearing shorts just last week! Last year during the months of October and November we were closed because of bad weather 27 days. This year from October 1st through the 21st of November we had been closed a total of 5 days. Boy what a difference a year makes! That run of nice weather was great while it lasted.

The Griz Win Briarwood's Match Play Championship!

The Cat - Griz Match Play Championship was held a week before the Cat - Griz football game and everyone had a blast. It was a match play format (similar to the Ryder Cup) pitting the best ball score between 2 players from the Cats against the best ball of 2 players from the Griz. Each match won was worth 1 point, if the match was tied than each team received a half point. The first team to receive 5 1/2 points would win the Championship and hold bragging rights until next years matches. We had 40 members play, some with STRONG ties to their school and others who just wanted to play golf that day but everyone had fun and the competition was evenly matched with both sides earning 5 points and forcing a playoff eventually won on the 4th extra

hole by the "Grizzlies" squad. Thanks to Steve Solberg for bringing his music machine and pumping out some great tunes and providing a "game like atmosphere" to this years matches.

Inventory Reduction Sale!

I am trying to clean out the Pro Shop's inventory this year so if you have shop credit and want to get rid of it almost everything in the shop is 20% off. If you want to pay cash or charge it to your account your savings are better yet... all golf shirts are 40% off, all shoes and clubs are 25% off, all bags, sun glasses, golf gloves and outerwear is 20% off.

Men's Stag Party

The Men's Stag Party is Wednesday December 5th; please look for more information in upcoming emails.

Happy Holidays

And finally Audrey, Zach and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous and Happy New Year! The Briarwood is such a great mix of people and personalities we truly enjoy being a part of your club. Thank you and I look forward to sharing more good times and laughter next year!



Club House Holiday Decorations

Thanks to
Lisa Forsberg, Judy Tripp,
Lynn Benson, Katie Whitbeck
Sami Benson

For putting up the holiday decorations



You can be a
Range Ball
sponsor !

Would you like to have your company logo on The Briarwood's range balls? For \$3000 you can sponsor the club's range balls for next season. Please contact Rob at the Pro Shop if you would like more information 248-2702.

Season's Greetings *from the* President

Peter Benson, Board President

The Board of Directors extends its best wishes to all the membership and our staff.

The golf season was wrapped up with a spirited Cat - Griz match play event. Thanks to Rob and Katie for organizing this event. This was followed a week later by the Cat - Griz BBQ, thanks to guest chef Jerry Bertelson (meat and more meat) and his crew, Jim Whitbeck and the BIG RED BBQ/Smoker. Fun events that I hope to see more of in 2008.

A few updates:

Director of Operations. The Board of Directors has promoted Katie Whitbeck to the position of Director of Operations. Katie will be responsible for the overall daily operations of the Briarwood. The Board looks forward to having the day to day club operations handled in a timelier and more efficient manner appropriate to the size of operation at the Briarwood. Asking a board of nine individuals to make daily operation decisions just doesn't work well. Katie's new position will tie the department management and BOD policy and vision directions through one position.

City of Billings Sewer Line Project. The Board of Directors has signed an agreement with City of Billings with regard to an easement for an extension of a sewer line across the front nine of the golf course. I'd like to thank the members who attended the informational/advisory meeting with City of Billings and BOD in *August*. The Board has a special thank you to Kelly Varnes for the excellent work and hours of personal time he provided

during the contract negotiations with City. We will again review the negotiated allowances to the club at the annual meeting in March. At this time the City has not provided a specific start date for the project, and still needs to bid the project. We will provide up dated information as the project moves along.

Congratulations to the Superintendent. Following the annual GCSAA meeting in January, Sean Sullivan will be heading to England for the United Kingdom equivalent meeting. Sean has been selected by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) to represent their association along with a number of his colleagues. Sean, congratulations on earning the recognition.

Pro Shop Credit. For past couple of years the pro shop has not required the membership to use accumulated credit prior to end of the calendar year. Rob has been very generous, as most all other local golf club pro shops require credit be spent by end of November or December. This credit represents a large percentage of Rob's income for the year. Since Rob is too polite to ask, I'd like to take this opportunity to encourage all of you with credit to spend it this year; the pro shop is well stocked with great gifts ideas for yourself or *others* (hint). And you know, he has a newborn to feed. :)

One Goodbye. Rebecca Wickens from the business office has resigned. Rebecca has moving to Idaho. We like to thank her for her contribution in the office with Linda, and wish her well on the move.

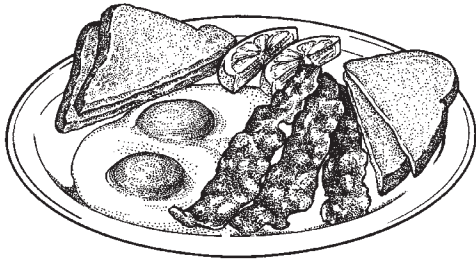
Well, the snow is finally here, the course maybe closed for the time being but the driving range is open to sledding until the grass reappears again. So bring the family and sled while you can, and after enjoy a hot chocolate or more in the club house.

Clubhouse Behavior

The Briarwood is a family oriented golf club; we would like to remind the membership that while at the club to **please** be aware of other members, their families, guests of members, and staff who are also enjoying the atmosphere of the Briarwood. Inappropriate behavior and loud language inside the clubhouse can not be tolerated. Please be mindful of your surroundings and behave accordingly.

The Breakfast Buffet is changing!

The breakfast buffet will be changing starting December 1, 2007. The buffet will only be offered on the first Sundays of each month. In lieu of the buffet, we have added a breakfast menu for you to enjoy on Saturdays and Sundays.

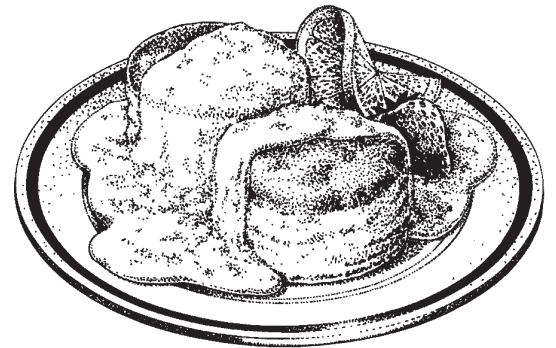
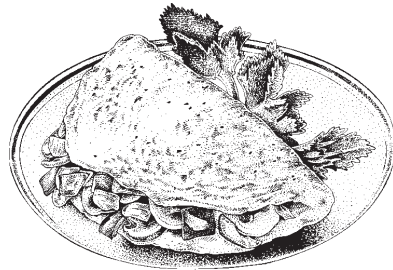


The menu includes:

- 2 Eggs with Hashbrowns, Bacon or Sausage, and Toast
- Eggs Benedict
- Breakfast Sandwich with Hashbrowns
- Ham and Cheese Scrambled Eggs
- Biscuits and Gravy

Weekly Features:

- French Toast
- Pancakes
- Omelets
- Steak and Eggs



December 2007						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Private Christmas Party (Restaurant still open)
2	3 Restaurant & Bar Closed	4	5 Men's Stag Night	6 Private Christmas Party	7 Private Party	8 6 pm - Private Christmas Party (Restaurant still open)
9	10 Restaurant & Bar Closed	11	12	13	14 Blue Creek Bunko night 5:30 pm (Restaurant still open)	15 6:30 pm - Private Christmas Party 7 pm - Apex Christmas Party
16	17 Restaurant & Bar Closed	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Restaurant & Bar Closed	25 CHRISTMAS Clubhouse & Pro Shop CLOSED	26	27	28	29
30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE					

HOURS

MONDAYCLOSED
TUESDAY 11 AM - 8 PM
WEDNESDAY 11 AM-CLOSE
THURSDAY 11 AM - 8 PM
FRIDAY 11 AM - 8 PM
SATURDAY 10 AM - 8 PM
SUNDAY 9 AM - 7 PM

PIZZA

TO GO!

CALL THE
RESTAURANT AT

245-2966

BAR HOURS

Monday Closed
Tuesday 10 am-8 pm
Wednesday 10 am-Close
Thursday 10 am-8 pm
Friday 10 am-8 pm
Saturday 9 am-8 pm
Sunday 9 am-7 pm

WEEKLY

BREAKFAST BUFFET

Sunday 9 am - 1 pm

\$9 for Adults

\$5 for 12 yrs & under

No charge for 6 yrs & under