

Golf Gossip



Volume 2, February 2024—Happy Valentines Day!

President's Message



Love was in the air this last month as we each celebrated Valentines Day in some way, shape or form.

Gary and I traveled to Windsor, CA (in the Napa area) to play some golf and visit some very good friends.

Our friends are true foodies and winos (but not golfers) who planned some spectacular dinners for us at their home. It's a good thing we weren't there a week. I came back fat and slightly pickled, and we were there only three days (ha!ha!ha!). We also enjoyed a great food and wine pairing on Valentines Day at Williamson Winery. Did I ever tell you how much I love food and wine pairings? I kept myself to buying only three bottles of wine and an excellent, superb truffle cheese ... yum!

Thank you to everyone who showed up for the Clothing Swap. If you missed it, you missed out on some great deals. It just doesn't get better than good golf apparel at really affordable prices. I cleaned out my closet just for you so I could have room for some new items. I actually need a 12-step program for golf clothing. You will be seeing the leftovers at our Meet and Greet on March 26th — look for it!

I also put together the third Women's Golf Leadership Roundtable this month. Our host was Hidden Valley Country Club in Reno and 10 local women's clubs were represented where we entertained some lively times of discussion.

Judy Brooke

President

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Williamson/Yoakim Bridge Winery food and wine pairing in Healdsburg. The food, wine and company were all spectacular.



Women's Winter Indoor League Play Results



Week 11 Results

The players on week 11 (January 30th) had the opportunity to play Hart Common Golf Club in Westhoughton, England. The course features wide fairways and open greens, but water lurks in those trees! Congratulations to Monica for a hole-out that gave her team the first of their two birdies!

- **Team #1:** Gail Ellingwood, Suze Ericson, Peggy Frick, Beverly Hefferly.
- **Team #2:** Jeanine Felix, Monica Siewertsen, and D-D Woodruff.

WINNERS 

Week 12 Results

Week 12 (February 6th) we played Fana Golfklubbe in Bergen, Norway. The fairways were laid out across a rugged landscape of parkland and forest. Carts are not allowed due to the rough, hilly terrain. Team #1 scored eight birdies, and Team #2 scored six birdies and one eagle! There was a lot of birdie juice swigging around Swing 395!

- **Team #1:** Judy Brooke, Lorna Johnston, Beverly Hefferly, and Monica Siewertsen.
- **Team #2:** Kathy Emanuel, Peggy Frick, Vickie Kemp, and Vickie Rutledge.

WINNERS 

Week 13 Results

Week 13 (February 13th) the ladies played Pine Brook C.C. in Weston, MA. This course offers a great balance between precision and power. With many approach shots facing steep elevation changes, picking the right club was a challenge and erring on the side of caution was always recommended.

- **Team #1 (with one birdie):** Janet Brown, Gail Ellingwood, Beverly Hefferly, and Julie Marraccini.

WINNERS 

- **Team #2 (with two birdies):** Diane Bartsch, Jeanine Felix, D-D Woodruff and Vickie

Week 14 Results

Week 14 (February 20th) we played Sweetens Cove Golf Club in TN. This darling of the golf world is a nine-hole course with double-pinned greens. The course is characterized by wide fairways, large waste areas, and distinctive (undulating, rolling) greens that challenged every one of us. We were lucky if our balls stayed on the greens and didn't leisurely roll off!

- **Team #1:** Suze Ericson, Jeanine Felix, Vicki Kemp and Beverly Hefferly.
- **Team #2:** Judy Brooke, Lorna Johnston and Felia Sotomayor.

WINNERS 

Week 15 Results

Week 15 (February 27th) we played (for the second time) Yellowstone Club. This 18-hole Tom Weiskoph-designed private course is enjoyable for golfers of every skill level. The dramatic elevation changes and stunning views of the surrounding northern Rockies in Big Sky, MT earned it a spot in Golf Digest's most recent ranking of the top 20 most beautiful courses.

- **Team #1:** Suze Ericson, Gail Ellingwood, Virginia Irlakis and D-D Woodruff.
- **Team #2:** Diane Bartsch, Judy Brooke, Melinda Johnson and Felicia Sotomayor.

WINNERS 



February Photos



The first of eight birdie celebrations for this team on February 6th. (L-R): Lorna Johnston, Beverly Hefferly, Judy Brooke and Monica Siewertsen (behind Judy).



Lorna Johnston on February 6th celebrating the one and only hole-out that day.



(L-R): Judy Brooke, Felicia Sotomayor and Lorna Johnston celebrating the first of nine birdies on February 20th.



D-D Woodruff all decked out in her Mardi Gras attire for play at Swing 395 on February 13th.



Monica Siewertsen celebrating her hole-out on January 30th that resulted in her team getting a birdie!



Celebrating the Women's Indoor League's first **EAGLE** on February 6th, Team #2 (who also scored six birdies!). (L-R): Vickie Rutledge, Kathy Emanuel, Peggy Frick and Vicki Kemp.



More February Photos



February 27th was our last "official" Women's Winter Indoor League play day. Celebrating the last day (L-R): Melinda Johnson, D-D Woodruff, Judy Brooke, Gail Ellingwood, Felicia Sotomayor, Virginia Irlakis, Diane Bartsch, and Suze Ericson. It was a great winter season, and I'm sure we'll do it again next winter!



February 27th Birdie Babes Team with four birdies. Let's celebrate with some Fireball from Judy's flask!

Felicia Sotomayor celebrating her Swing 395 golfing experience this winter.



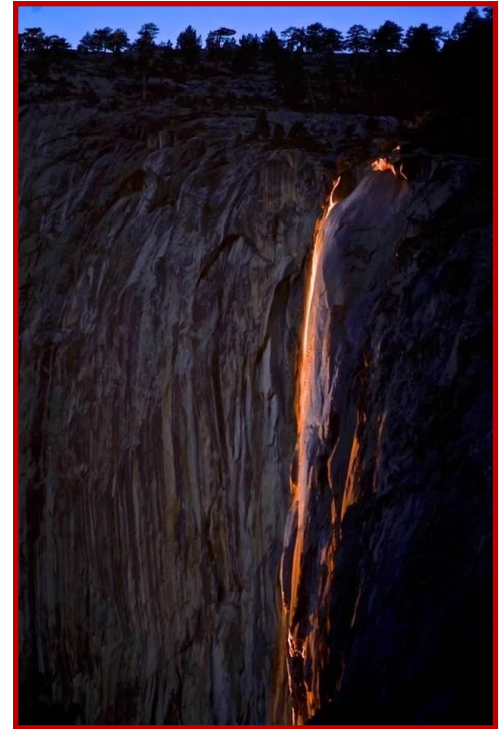
Here's What Y'all Have Been Doing!



Dianne Ford vacationing in Africa late last year. During her trip she visited South Africa, Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls, Cape Town and Botswana.



Steve and Shana Lakso enjoying great skiing at Rusutsu Resort in Hokkaido, Japan.



A photo of Yosemite Fire Fall taken by Joni Becksted.



Kathy Hanley (yellow jacket with lots of pockets so her backpack wasn't as heavy) and her daughter on a 6-day ski safari in the Dolomites, Italy. They skied six days straight and covered about 120 backpacking miles. Prior to the ski adventure, they visited Venice and Bolzano.



Jeanine Felix birdied Hole 10 at CVGC on January 29th. Her go-to birdie juice is tequila which her team thoroughly enjoyed that day. To commemorate that great accomplishment, Margaret Fay presented Jeanine with her very own Birdie Juice Flask after cards on February 12th at J.T. Basque.



Jan Singyke playing in a breast cancer awareness tournament with the ladies group, the Roadrunners, while wintering in Palm Desert.



Here's What Y'all Have Been Doing!



Jeanine Felix at J.T. Basque (after Monday cards) tossing her dollar bill to see if she can get it to stick to the ceiling.



Gary and Judy Brooke at Windsor Golf Course in Windsor, CA (wine country). It was a soggy, muddy day!



Lorna Johnston, our treasurer for the Clothing Swap.



The Mason Valley gang celebrating Jan Recanzone's 86th birthday on February 16th at L.A. Bakery. (Clockwise L-R): Joan Sciarini, Mary Milligan, Nora Stevens, Jan Recanzone, and Clarice Lommori.



Diane Bartsch (a qualified buyer) and Gretchen Dermody (a great volunteer) at the Clothing Swap..



The card sharks at the Clothing Swap—they never quit! (L-R): Vickie Rutledge, Jeanine Felix, and Margaret Fay.



Just a small sampling of the great golf apparel at the Clothing Swap

CLOTHING SWAP FEB 19

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Funny Things to Write on Your Golf Ball



These golfers have all the one-liners and are always looking to make another golfer smile. If this describes you, maybe you are looking for something clever to write on your golf balls for your next round. Here are some great sayings that you should be able to fit on your golf ball and make another player smile.

1. Free Golf Ball

When someone stumbles upon a golf ball that says it's free, they are likely to pick it up. If you have lost your golf ball in the woods or in the rough, chances are you are happy to give it up for free. The free golf ball comment is likely to make someone smile when they see that they have indeed stumbled upon the rare free piece of golf equipment. A complimentary golf ball should be played until it is eventually transferred to the next guy who needs it!

2. I'm Not Lost, I'm Just Hiding From "Fill in Your Name"

This is a very funny thing to put on a golf ball. When a player finds your old ball, they will be reading it as if the golf ball has a mind of its own. When the ball says, "I'm not lost, just hiding," it seems as though it has a mind of its own and has escaped to the location. We like this idea because all golfers sometimes feel like the golf ball has a mind of its own.

3. I Once Was Lost, But Now I'm Found

Amazing Grace is one of the most famous songs of all time. Although the song has some religious references, it is known for being a standard to celebrate special events. This is quite a funny reference because of the travels that a golf ball has to go through. Not to mention that, when people find a golf ball, they are constantly feeling a little lucky to add it to their bags.

4. Save Me

Have you ever felt as though your golf ball was trying to escape? Many people forget to consider the fact that maybe our golf balls have had enough

of us and are headed to be with the next player. It's awfully funny to stumble upon a golf ball that needs saving.

The "save me" phrase has been a popular one for some time. This is also a short phrase so that it won't take up as much space on the golf ball. Some players are a bit particular about the amount of room that the text takes up. They want to make sure that there is still plenty of white space on the ball.

5. Help, I Can't Swim!

Although we have mostly talked about golf balls that are found in the woods or the rough, plenty of poor shots end up in the water. If you are a player who is known to put a few of your shots in the water each round, the "help, I can't swim" reference is quite funny.

Many golfers will have a ball retriever in their bag, and they will fish for a few golf balls that have landed in the water. If yours is one that is pulled out, it is sure to give a laugh to those who have found it. When you pull a golf ball from the ponds at a golf course, you don't often think of the golf ball as something that has floated in the water trying to swim. If you typically play a desert golf course with no water hazards, this may not be the funniest choice.

6. Can You Help Me Find The Fairway?

Lost golf balls are typically just looking for the next fairway. Writing this quote on your golf ball is funny, yet it can be a positive thought as well. At least when you are lining up to hit your shot, you are thinking about the fairway and where the golf ball is supposed to end up. Go ahead and send it there! If the next one doesn't work out, at least maybe someone else can find a way to get the golf ball to the fairway. ♦

Article written by: *Brittany Olizarowicz*

Do you know Brittany actually wrote a total of 25 quotes for golf balls? Click here to see all 25 funny quotes online: [Golf Balls](#)



Can I Clean Mud on My Golf Ball?

It's that time of year when conditions at courses around the country can make actually *playing golf* a bit of a challenge. Everything from trying to get a tee into frozen ground to dealing with truckloads of goose poop—let's be honest, you sometimes have to really want to be out there to even think about a round in the winter or early spring.

This time of year, especially, mud on a golf ball is an issue we all have to deal with. Well, maybe not the pros so much. Competitive tours often enact a Model Local Rule that enables players to lift their ball, clean it and replace it on soft-and-soggy days. Everyday golfers have the right to a little help, too, so check with your course or tournament committee on whether Model Local Rules E-2 ([cleaning a ball](#)) or E-3 ([preferred lies](#)) are being used. We'll explain more about both in a bit. We'll also cover how to play when you're out there to battle the elements without any preferred lies — like Bishop Pickering in "Caddyshack."

To be clear, we're only going to discuss here what the *Rules of Golf* permit or prohibit when you find mud on your ball. If you want to know how your ball might behave when you have to hit it with a clump of mud stuck to it,

Back to when it is or isn't OK to clean your ball, let's start with this: If no Local Rules are in effect, you have to play a ball with mud on it ([Rule 8](#) and [9](#) address this concept generally). Of course, on a putting green, you can mark your ball, lift it and clean it ([Rule 13](#)). You also can lift and clean your ball when it's embedded in the general area of a course ([Rule 16.3](#)). The general area is most of the golf course including the rough, but does not include the teeing area you're starting from and the green of the hole you're on, any penalty areas and all bunkers.

To be clear, the general principal of Rule 8 is to "play the course as you find it." But there are times when you're allowed to lift your ball and clean it beyond the putting green. Two examples would be when you're taking free or penalty relief. Say your ball is up against one of those irrigation-control boxes covered in mud. You're entitled to relief from the box, and



when you take that relief you're also allowed to lift your ball and clean it before dropping it back into play. Same thing goes if you're taking an unplayable lie — go ahead and spiff up your ball (while adding the penalty stroke) — or taking relief for a ball in a penalty area.

But here are some examples under Rule 14 when you **CAN'T** clean your ball:

- To see if it is cut or cracked; cleaning is not allowed.
- To identify it; cleaning is allowed only as needed to identify it.
- Because the mud interferes with play; cleaning is not allowed.
- To see if the ball lies in a condition where relief is allowed; cleaning is not allowed, unless you then take relief.

Another thing to remember is that you have to mark the position of your ball before lifting when a rule requires you to replace it on its original spot. You can mark your ball with things such as a tee, a coin and most artificial objects, but don't mark your ball with a pine cone, leaf, twig (natural stuff), or it's a one-stroke penalty.

Continued on next page ...



Mud on My Ball (Cont'd)

OK, so now on to the Model Local Rules. E-2, if in place, says you can enact lift, clean and place procedures for any ball in the general area of the course. E-3 is similar, but restricts lift, clean and place procedures to parts of the course in the general area that are cut to fairway height or less. This is what the PGA Tour does on soggy days.

We should make one more note about mud balls: If you play in a part of the country that allows you to post handicap scores (golfers in 34 states cannot post during most of the winter), you can still record a round if the Model Local Rules above are in effect. In fact, you **must** post. Keep in mind that the new World Handicap System makes adjustments to scores based on weather. It's called the Playing Conditions Calculation, it was updated at the start of this year to kick in more. Here's how it works:

"If scores were abnormally low or high, a PCC adjustment between -1 and +3 will be applied in the calculation of Score Differentials of everyone who played that day. A negative (-) adjustment means the course played easier than expected and a positive (+) adjustment means the course played more difficult than expected. A PCC of 0 means the course played as expected, which will be the case on most days." ♦

View this article online: [Mud Ball](#)

Who is St. Valentine?

St. Valentine (died 3rd century, Rome; feast day February 14) is the name of one or two legendary Christian martyrs whose lives seem to have a historical basis. Although the Roman Catholic Church continues to recognize St. Valentine as a

saint of the church, he was removed from the General Roman Calendar in 1969 because of the lack of reliable information about him. He is the patron saint of lovers, people with epilepsy, and beekeepers.

By some accounts, St. Valentine was a Roman priest and physician who was martyred during the persecution of Christians by the emperor Claudius II Gothicus about 270. He was buried on the Via Flaminia, and Pope Julius I reportedly built a basilica over his grave. Other narratives identify him as the bishop of Terni, Italy, who was martyred, apparently also in Rome, and whose relics were

later taken to Terni. It is possible these are different versions of the same original account and refer to only one person. Numerous churches around the world claim to be in possession of his relics. These include his skull on display in a glass reliquary at the Basilica di Santa Maria in Cosmedin in Rome, a shoulder blade housed at the Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul in Prague (after having been discovered in the church's basement in 2002), a vessel tinged with his blood in addition to sundry other artifacts at the Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin, and relics kept inside a wax effigy of the

saint situated in front of the altar of Old St. Ferdinand Shrine in Florissant, Missouri.

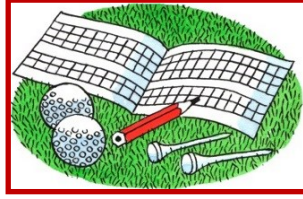
According to legend, St. Valentine signed a letter "from your Valentine" to his jailer's daughter, whom he had befriended and healed from blindness. Another common legend states that he defied the emperor's orders and secretly married couples to spare the husbands from being conscripted to serve in war.

Valentine's Day as a lovers' festival dates at least from the 14th century. ♦



Posting Scores

Posting scores for your handicap at NNGA golf courses resumes **March 15th** after winter break. That means when you play a round at an NNGA course, you must post your score! It's not only a USGA and NNGA rule, but a Club Rule as well to prevent players from sandbagging their handicap. ♦



Time to Spring Forward!

Sunday, **March 12th** you get to **SPRING FORWARD** and change your clocks to reflect more daylight hours!

Just a Few Daylight Saving Time Facts:

- Daylight Saving Time was first enacted by the federal government during WWI as a way to conserve coal.
- It became a national standard in the U.S. in 1966 with the passage of the Uniform Time Act.
- It accounts for about 65% of the year.
- States must have approval from Congress before making Daylight Saving Time permanent.
- More than 70 countries observe Daylight Saving Time. ♦



Why is Golf So Good?

It's great because I get up early, get to hydrate, get to be in the sun. It gives the guys some space away from me, gives me my own thing, but a lot of times it's just a network of friends and people that I've played **golf** with over the years that I rarely get to see," said Mackin of his rounds on the road.



Monica Siewertsen 03/01
Judy Brooke 03/16
Vickie Oland 03/27

We want not only your photos for future editions of *Golf Gossip*, but also any fun/funny tidbits of golf gossip you experience with your golfing partners! You can email your pictures and stories to: judypsalms100@gmail.com.

Thank you for helping make *Golf Gossip* fun, informative and worth reading.

Judy Brooke
Vice President & Editor





meet & greet



Date: Tuesday, March 26th

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Carson Valley Golf Course

What: Appetizers and no-host bar

This will be a great time to meet new club members and reacquaint yourself with returning members.

Hope to see you there!