

President's Message

In Memoriam

Rocco Delpriore 1921-2011

It is with heavy hearts that we acknowledge the passing of a beloved member, Rocco Delpriore. Rocco was a NLCC member for over 60 years. He was a ten-time Club Champion, 1947-1949, 1952, 1956-1958, 1960, 1965 and 1968. He was Men's 4-Ball Champion in 1979, with son Rocco, and 4-Ball Champion in 2006, with daughter Susan. In 2010, he was made an Honorary Member of the club. Rocco was a consummate gentleman; an example to us all of a quiet champion and someone to emulate. He was a man of few words that were always ones of warmth, encouragement, and friendship. While he will be sorely missed, his example will live on. Our sincerest condolences to the Delpriore family.

Dear members:

While enjoyable, June was a blur...but the season continues to go well. Despite the "healthy" fescue, the course is in outstanding shape - tees, fairways and greens. Thanks to everyone for being attentive to filling in divots and repairing ball marks.

Our tournaments are running smoothly and many players have commented on the excellent condition of our golf course.

In food service, our members are pleased with what we are serving as well as the way it is being served. The banquet room is being utilized for outside events such as birthdays, weddings and similar events... as we had envisioned.

Overall, an aura of contentment that usually accompanies the long days of summer appears to be very much in evidence.

President's Message

Behind the scenes, the board and the various committees continue to conduct the business of the club. Two meetings are noteworthy to report.

This past Monday, June 27th, Walter Barry, Kevin O'Reilly, George Mitchell and I met with the president and two senior officers of our lender, Dime Bank. We brought them up to speed on our achievements over the past 8 months as well as the challenges that were encountered. Additionally, we painted an untainted and realistic picture of what we expect to be our year end results.

The meeting was both timely and productive. They listened attentively and greatly appreciated the synopsis of our undertakings, asked informed questions, provided suggestions, insightful observations, and expressed overall support for the way we have managed the business of the club as well as encouraged the fiscally conservative path we have elected to travel.

Among their many positive observations, their recognition of how well the finance committee interacts was noteworthy. We were quick to inform them that the same level of cooperation and commitment exists among the board as well as the cadre of members who remain loyal to the club and its success.

We continue to have a supportive and willing partner in Dime Bank. They are fully vested in our success.

On Friday, June 24th, Walter Barry and I met with Waterford first selectman, Dan Steward, concerning the issue of the club's tax assessment. That, too, was a fruitful meeting and, at Dan's suggestion, we will be writing a letter to the town concerning property tax abatement for the club.

On the occasion of Independence Day, please take a moment to reflect on how blessed we are to live in The United States of America and enjoy the freedom and bounty of our country. And please take a moment to remember our uniformed men and women.

Freedom isn't free; it comes at a price, and they are the ones who write the check-- every day.

I wish you and your families a wonderful Fourth of July.

Sincerely,

Lou Camerota

President

Treasurer/Finance Committee's Report
June 30, 2011
George Mitchell/Walter J. Barry

As we approach mid year, many issues have surfaced which needed immediate and somewhat discrete handling. This has caused us to be behind in updating the membership of our financial health. In all our decision making and planning, **Our No.1 goal has been our “long term survival as a private country club”**. We have successfully transitioned in several new Board members and many changes in the leadership/committee chairpersons. The President and Treasurer are now the only authorized check signatories.

The 2011 budget hearings commenced late due to the turnover in may positions. The budget was finally adopted in mid January. The multi-faceted goals we and the board utilized in approving the budget was to (1) retain/recruit members, (2) increase non-member revenue, (3) cost containment (without significantly affecting services), (4) reaffirm our commitment to staff, (5) maintain the facility and equipment in respectable condition, and (6) monitor cash flow on a short and long term basis.

The final budget reflected a second straight year of significant cost reduction across all departments. Also included was a restructuring/consolidation of the office manger and restaurant manager functions. As of this date both the staff and member volunteers have made that decision a financial and service success.

In late February when it became apparent that membership enrollment would be severely impacted, we requested additional concessions from Dime Bank. They were and continue to be very supportive of our position. They approved a 12 month (expandable to 18 under certain year end thresholds) suspension of mortgage principal payments, thereby saving approximately \$120,000 annually in cash flow. board of directors' meeting we announced that Dime Bank had agreed, effective March 1, 2011, to defer principal payments for the next 12 months. These thresholds include increases in membership revenue (**all types**), gross revenues, and year-end cash reserves, as well as restrictions on purchases of equipment. The thresholds are set high, but we feel we can attain all of them with your support and understanding.

In late December we were notified by the State of Connecticut' tax department that the club would be undergoing a 3 year audit (October '08 to September '10) sales and dues tax audit. This audit is till ongoing and may pose a liability to the club. We budgeted an estimated \$20,000 for the audit findings (tax, interest and penalties) plus professional fees in the 2011 budget.

In April-June, under the stewardship of our new board member and house chair (John Taglianetti) we tackled a potentially disastrous internal record keeping problem with an antiquated and malfunctioning IT server. He and his committee researched the problems, held numerous meetings, solicited three vendors to interview, solicited proposals (subsequently approved by the Board) and have implemented those software and hardware upgrades as of this newsletter. The proposal also ensures a current updating of all our data and programs. This is a significant long term solution and will minimize the annual repairs needed, saving the club in that line item about \$10,000 and guaranteeing the safety of our database.

Our cost containment and non-member revenue initiatives are currently on track. Our service quality in golf, green and food/beverage is meeting our expectations, thanks to staff. Although the membership committee has met numerous times and developed/executed several large recruitment projects, the decline in overall membership numbers will affect the revenue from dues.

Treasurer/Finance Committee's Report

We have been actively pursuing the sale of 2 lots, adjacent to club property, for several years. It has been a high priority for the past two years. It now appears that we may be on the verge (less than 30 days) of selling that excess property and realizing some portion of the cash flow from the proceeds. We recently met with senior Dime Bank officials (President and the senior lending officers) to discuss how much of those proceeds could be retained by the club for specific uses. They were very agreeable and understanding in listening to our requests.

Messers, Camerota and Barry met with the First Selectman to discuss a possible reduction in the taxes (\$78,000) paid to the Town. We will be submitting a request to the legislative body requesting an abatement on the grounds that no education or public works funds are expended on our behalf.

We are supportive of the club president / board's desire not to make any assessment this year. We thank all the continuing and new members for their support and understanding. Have fun playing golf at New London Country Club for the remainder of the golf year.



The Women's Association had its first meeting of the season on May 31, 2011 followed by a luncheon. The meeting was well attended and lots of conversation and ideas. Our Tuesday ladies day has been going well even though we have been rained out a few times. Everyone is enjoying the beauty of the course and the fast greens.

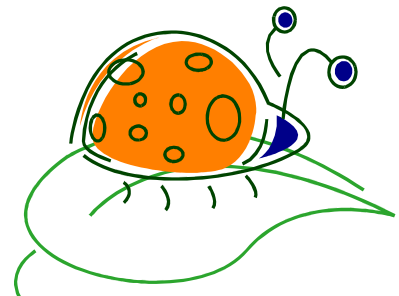
An important change to the calendar, the date of the Breast Cancer fundraiser "Rally for the Cure" has been changed from August 2, 2011 to July 26, 2011. Please mark your calendar as a reminder.

Our Member/Guest on June 21, 2011 was a great success. We had a total of forty eight women attend. What a great showing for a small group. Thank you all and your guest for participating. I would like to extend a special thanks to the following people for helping with our event. Much thanks to Susan Schmidtknecht, Sally Sloan and Pat Norton. Thank you to Tina for our wonderful food and her menu cards. Everyone raved about the lunch and loved the cards. I would like to thank Kevin for all his help and also the nice touch with the seating tags. The pink cups on the greens were a special touch, thank you Dan and also for the beauty of the course all around the clubhouse. We all appreciate your hard work; please pass this on to your crew. The bag boys did an outstanding job also. Thank you for your attention and your positive personalities. The successful Member/Guest was the result of a great team effort. Thank you all again and I look forward to next year.

Please feel free to contact me by phone (860) 464-8376 or my email cleary-patty@yahoo.com if you have any questions or ideas for any future events. I look forward to seeing everyone on the course.

Patty Cleary

Women's Association President



The season has been going well in the green department. Weather for the most part has been favorable for growing and timely for play. We have been able to stay ahead of our major pest problems and not had to buy water to date.

The feed back I have been getting has been very positive and I appreciate all of the members support for what my staff and I accomplish. Recently a member commented on afternoon mowing. Let me explain why it is necessary to have mowing equipment on the course in the afternoon hours so that maybe there can be a better understanding of how I maintain this course on budget.

The staff consists of 8 full time and 3 part time employees this includes the mechanic and myself. Our tasks are as follows: mow greens, roll greens, mow tees and approaches, perform hand mowing tasks on bunker faces, blow grass clippings out of bunkers, rake bunkers, change cups/ course set up, hand watering of greens and spray when necessary. When the staff completes morning tasks the SAME guys will have to mow green surround rough, large area rough, mow fairways and perform trimming tasks. All these afternoon tasks take place at least 3 days per week, greens are mowed at least one time daily many times twice and sometimes hand mowed which takes 4 men. This work is all juggled around an increasing busy golf schedule and weather. The tasks described above are "routine" maintenance tasks; this does not include irrigation maintenance and repair, equipment maintenance and repair, planting bed maintenance, cart path repair, divot repair and many others. I need to prioritize tasks as any manager would and we are doing the best we can to get everything done to the level a private club member would expect. I thank you for your patience as we continue to do our best to provide conditions our members can be proud of.