



VALLEY
VIEW

JAN | FEB 2025



FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

STEVE JOHNSON

Happy New Year, yes, I am still here. This will likely be my final Newsletter as the Board of Directors is diligently working on finding a new GM. I expect there will be an announcement soon. I would like to thank all members and the VVGC staff for your tremendous support. I have enjoyed working with all of you to make your experiences at “The View” pleasant and enjoyable. Together, we have made a great deal of progress in a few years. Those accomplishments include:

- Re-rating of the Course and flipping the 9’s to allow for better flow and control.
- Replacement of many outdated and well-used pieces of course maintenance equipment.
- Assuming Club ownership of the Pro Shop operation and all golf-related activities.
- Complete replacement of the Clubhouse HVAC system.
- Replacement of many refrigeration and freezer units in the kitchen and bar service area.
- Replacement and upgrade of the kitchen fire suppression system.
- Cleaning, reroofing and weatherizing the storage sheds.
- Automation and simplification of many of the bookkeeping and accounting functions. This has resulted in savings in the cost of Administration that have been reinvested in the Course and Restaurant.
- Implementation of a membership waitlist and our dining affiliate program.
- Complete review and rewrite of the Club Rules and Regulations and significant upgrades to the Bylaws.

Even with all the improvements, the financial position of the club is stronger than ever. We have very little debt and an enviable cash position. However, the thing I am most proud of is the open, friendly can-do attitude of the VVGC staff. They all truly are here for the members and to make your experience the highlight of your day





FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GOLF
TED BABCOCK PGA

When is this winter supposed to start? Hope all of you that hang around here for the winter have enjoyed the mild and dry start we have experienced. I am of the opinion; it would be nice to get this thing started and over with. With the hope of having our beautiful golf course open in early April. Jack, Paul and I are excited to all start the golf season as employees of VVGC. Having all departments aligned with the same goals will have a positive effect on the membership.

The golf operation is in its third and final month of finalizing pre-book orders for the 2025 season. We are excited to have Taylor Made Golf increase their presence in the golf shop, you will see Taylor Made balls, gloves, and clubs available. We have pre-booked a full line of Men's and Ladies line of apparel from Bad Birdie. Your Head Golf Professional Paul Bennett was instrumental in negotiating a full fitting cart of drivers, fairway woods, hybrids, and a variety of iron heads and shafts to better fit all players who are interested in Cleveland/Srixon. Our goal is to have a fully stocked golf shop for the bulk of the golfing season.

The 2025 Tournament Calendar is receiving its finishing touches this month. VVGC Board of Directors have approved VVGC to host the MSGA Mid Am on August 21-23. The back end of the tournament calendar becomes a little trickier with green aeration planned for August 25-26. We want to give the greens enough time to heal before we have any event on the schedule. The Memorial Day Flag event has decreased in participation over the past decade. I have thought of moving the Red, White, and Blue Scramble to replace the Flag Event and moving it to Memorial Day. Stay tuned.

Thank you. It is my pleasure to be your Director of Golf.





FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

GARY COLSTAD

Everyone staying warm? This has not been an exceedingly challenging task as of lately. I was tempted to tell everyone to dust off the golf clubs but finally Mother Nature is throwing a little winter weather into the valley. Normally I would not be against an early start to the golf season, but we do need more snowpack.

Historically we have been incredibly lucky with our water supply to Valley View. On rare occasions we have drawn the water level down below “normal,” but typically the water supply has been satisfactory. For the first 23 years as Superintendent of Valley View Golf Club, I had the mindset of “wall to wall green” which does not follow good water conservation practices. I have aged (in more ways than one) and now realize that golf courses do not necessarily need to be boundary to boundary lush green.

The past two years there has been discussion of renovating specific areas of the golf course back into drought tolerant native areas. This would be a great idea except there are reasons that might not allow for a full-blown project like this to take place. People do not realize this task is not just a matter of turning off the irrigation sprinklers. The current vegetation would need to be removed, and specific drought-tolerant turf species would need to be introduced. One problem with this task would involve the irrigation system. Back when I took over as Superintendent, we installed substantial new irrigation in rough areas to supplement certain tee boxes, fairways, and green surrounds. The idea behind properly installed irrigation is for each sprinkler to throw water to the adjacent sprinklers. If we were to discontinue use of certain sprinklers to maintain a “drought-resistant natural area,” we would have tee boxes, fairways, and green surrounds that would not be receiving adequate irrigation coverage. Two steps forward over the last 25 years...and now one step back???

The water conservation aspect of creating these natural areas is great, but at the same time the current irrigation system is not designed to create these areas. I do see this coming to fruition in the future. Another key factor to consider with “unmaintained areas” would be the pace of play. If these native areas were to be created, they are not going to be conducive to find a golf ball quickly. Yes, many of these areas would be in spots where there would be minimal chance of a golf ball entering, but in my years working on golf courses, I can tell you...there will be golf balls getting lost in these native areas. I know...I watch people golf. Some people have an amazing golf game and others are still seeking that. But everyone occasionally hits an errant ball. I will meet you in the native areas to help look for your golf ball!

You all have a great winter. How ‘bout them Cats!!! Bobcat Nation has been loud and proud! It is fantastic to have a fiddle in the band.



FROM THE F&B MANAGER

KEN HODGSON

The restaurant staff would like to wish you all a Happy New Year!

Well, we are busy deep cleaning the kitchen and dining room and working on a new lunch menu and specials. We have hung up our 2025 calendar and are getting ready to take on the New Year. We are already booking functions for early 2025 and getting the restaurant ready to re-open for lunch service on Monday, January 6th. It will be a big day for us to get re-opened and start from scratch and to watch a very important football game that evening. GO CATS!!

Our Holiday banquet season was a great success, and I would like to personally thank all of you that booked and attended our Holiday parties. These parties are crucial to our year ending bottom line and they help us to retain year round staff. They also allow us to close for the holidays and give us time to attend to deep cleaning and restaurant upgrades and/or repairs. This time of the year is very important to us to be able to tackle large projects and reset for the coming year.

We are very excited to announce that the restaurant will be opening for lunch only Monday-Friday starting January 6th. We will be introducing a **new menu** for our lunch crowd. We will also be offering several weekly lunch specials and daily soup. Whether you are looking for a tasty lunch spot or out skiing on the course, stop in and warm up with homemade soup and check out our new offerings. The service hours will be 11:00am-2:00pm. We are also very excited to continue our pop-up dinners. These dinners are an opportunity to try new dinner menu items and let us showcase what our culinary staff can do! Our first pop up dinner is going to be on Thursday, January 16th (menu TBD). We will post a menu and a reminder when that date gets closer.

We look forward to seeing you this winter,



Restaurant, Bar, and Snack Shack hours and notes can be found on the club calendar!



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBERS

Art Burns
Jeff Setzer
Shayne & Karen Berry
Stevie & David Kisko
Pam McCutcheon
Ethan & Cristin Stokes

OUTGOING MEMBERS

Carl Trinca
Jon Wingo
Elise Clark
Don Aaker
Roger Barnes
Daniel Konen

WELCOME NEW DINING AFFILIATES

John & Deb Huleatt
Peter & Brittnay Dutkowsky
Don Aaker

HOLE-IN-ONE CELEBRATIONS

Soon!

If you get a Hole-In-One report it to the Pro Shop along with your witness. Members receive a \$200 credit on your bill (usually used up by your bar tab). Also, don't be shy about taking a picture for the newsletter.

VVGC Club Calendar

Our club calendar can now be found online! Click [here](#) to view.

Upcoming Events

Monday January 6th - Restaurant re-opens for lunch M-F 11 AM-2PM

Thursday January 9th - Board Meeting Clubhouse 5PM

Thursday January 16th - Pop up Dinner - Menu to be announced

Thursday February 13th - Board Meeting Clubhouse 5PM

Notice to Annual Dues Payers: The January statement includes the Annual dues for those of you that used that option in 2024. Over 450 of our 525 members pay their dues annually. If you wish to change to monthly billing or from monthly to annual, please contact Danielle at the office. Reminder of how it works: 1. Stock Members paying Annual Dues before the end of January receive 8 guest passes. There is a locked after-hours drop box for payments in the front door drive through area. Like all charges on a credit card, there will be a 3% service charge if that method is used to pay annual dues. 2. If you have an ACH account number or a credit card on file with us, we will run those on January 27th for the full amount due on your account. 3. Guest passes are non-transferable and have no monetary value. This includes if you sell your membership, they are not transferable to the new member. 4. The member using the pass must play with the guest. 5. Guest passes will be valid for the 2025 season only.





CLUB CONTACTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Todd Hillier, President
thillier@bridgeband.com
406 | 586-8183

Ken Mosby, Vice President
abskgm@bresnan.net
406 | 451-3230

Gordon Davidson, Treasurer
gmdavidson406@gmail.com
406 | 587-9345

Griffin Davidson, Director
griffin.davidson@gmail.com
406 | 570-2745

Mark Hauser, Director
houseymark@gmail.com
406 | 539-2453

Lindsey Hurlburt, Director
hurlburtlindsey@yahoo.com
406 | 581-4632

Mike Schottler, Director
michaelschottler@me.com
406 | 539-0589

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Pro Shop
proshop@vvgcbozeman.com
406 | 586-2145 Ext. 1

Office
office@vvgcbozeman.com
406 | 586-2145 Ext. 2

Food & Beverage
vvgckitchen@gmail.com
406 | 586-2145 Ext. 3

Course Maintenance
vvgcsupt@gmail.com
406 | 586-2145 Ext. 4





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