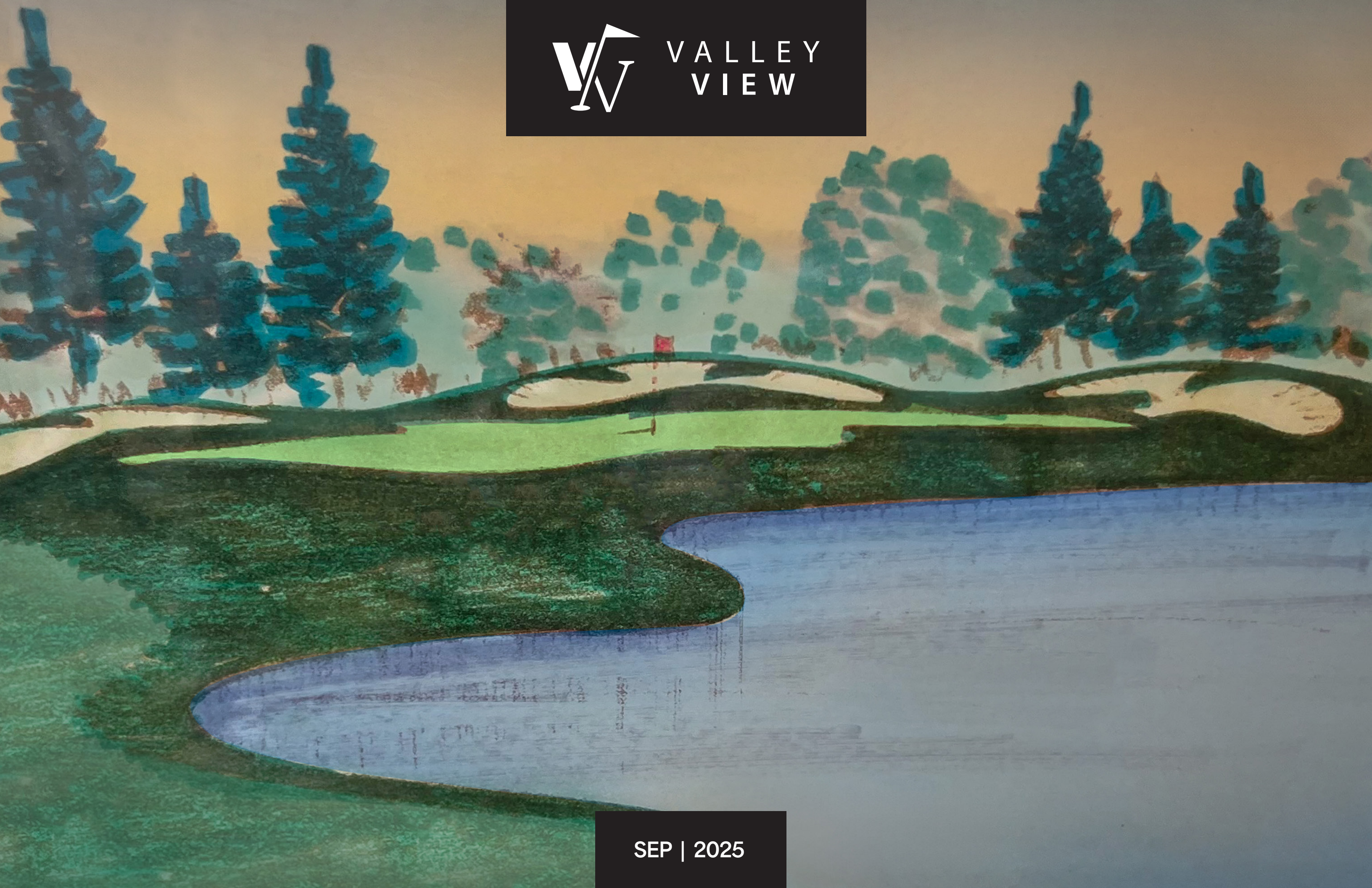




VALLEY  
VIEW



SEP | 2025



# CRAIG T. JOHNSON

## FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER



I would like to take a moment to thank each of you, along with the many member volunteers, for helping us successfully host the MSGA State Mid-Amateur at Valley View. It was a great event for Montana Golf—showcasing our club, our membership, and our course—while also generating additional revenue for the club and still allowing for member play. Best of all, our own members brought home the hardware, which you'll read more about in Ted's update.

As you are aware, we recently completed our greens aeration, a vital step in maintaining the long-term health of our putting surfaces. Along with this, I want to stress the importance of repairing pitch marks. With an average of 180 rounds played each day, and each golfer making on average eight ball marks per round, that adds up to nearly 1,500 marks per day—or about 44,000 per month.

When repaired correctly, a ball mark recovers in about 24 hours. When left unrepaired, it can take weeks, leaving scars that affect playability, aesthetics, and increase the workload of our grounds crew. Repairing your marks is not only a matter of golf etiquette and respect for fellow players, it is also one of the easiest and most impactful ways to help preserve our course. PLEASE take a moment to repair your ball marks every time you play.

There are instructions on how to correctly repair ball marks through many videos available on YouTube.

I know I can count on each of you to do your part in maintaining our great course. I continue to feel very blessed to serve as your General Manager, and I strive each day to be just a little better in making Valley View the very best it can be.

**There are FOUR member numbers hidden in the newsletter. Find your number and receive a complimentary desert or drink special if you let the office know what page it is on!**



# TED BABCOCK<sup>PGA</sup>

DIRECTOR OF GOLF

Football season is here! Thanks to Gary and his team for their hard work during the green aerification process. Valley View's greens are the best because they receive proper seasonal maintenance, and the heat and rain hopefully lead to a speedy recovery. We appreciate our members' patience and understanding. Valley View Golf Club maintained a robust tournament schedule throughout August. We extend our appreciation to the staff for their dedicated support. The MSGA Mid-Amateur participants provided favorable feedback, and the course met the standards expected by top state competitors. Congratulations to VVGC's own Chris Haas on his outstanding achievement in winning against the leading golfers aged 25 and above in the state. Mark Houser of VVGC won the Masters 40 Championship by two shots, and VVGC also took the Gene Cook Cup for best team score. I think we can call that a clean sweep.

The MSGA Mid-Amateur was not the only tournament conducted at VVGC in August. The VVGC Club Championship was conducted August 9-10. Congrats to two first time champions, Max Troutman and Kira Connell. The first VVGC Ladies Member Guest was played on Sunday, August 17th. Lindy Ward and her guest Taylor Erickson were crowned the Overall Champions.

VVGC will host high school events on September 11 and 18, with both competitions commencing at 10:00 a.m. via shotgun start. Tee-times will be available for general play beginning at 4:00 p.m. each day, contingent upon weather conditions. The sole member event in September is the inaugural VVGC Short Grass Scramble, scheduled for Sunday, September 21 at 10:00 a.m. Registration is currently open through Golf Genius, where participants can find details regarding the event format. True to its name, the tournament will feature a four-person scramble played from all tee boxes, focusing on fairway, fringe, and green cut grass. Teams unable to land their ball on the fairway or green must select the most advantageous shot; only the player responsible for that shot will take the subsequent stroke.

We sincerely appreciate your continued support of our golf club. We look forward to the successful final two months of our golf season.





# GARY COLSTAD

SUPERINTENDENT



I would like to give a big shoutout to Scott Hedglin. Scott has volunteered his time to take on the task of marking hazards and O.B. on the golf course throughout the golf season. I cannot thank you enough for making this happen. One less task for me to think about during the golf season. We even received a congrats from the MSGA rules people who were on hand during the State Mid-Am. Thanks again Scott.

I must admit...I did NOT enjoy prepping the golf course for the Mid-Am. The old saying of "fast twelve and forty eight firm" held true once again. I was asked numerous times if the golf course was going to play fast and firm! Reluctantly, I tried my best and for the most part...shut the water off on the golf course for four days. The wind on Friday of the tournament was BRUTAL. I watched the course shrivel up right before my very eyes. There was some panic that set into my body. Our fairways are not healthy enough to withstand drought very much. Mandatory fairway aerification will begin soon! I will bet you are all excited to hear that news! Adding to my panic was the fact that we were to begin greens aerification the Monday after the tournament. I was at the point where I believed the golf course would never be green again! The temperatures were high during green aerification, and we drug sand on them until they were toasted in spots. The outlook was bleak and then my prayers were answered. The golf course received an inch of rain over a period of about three days. I was saved...or rather, my job was saved (I think). The golf course is on a slow path to recovery, but I feel much better today than I did on August 24-26th. I know the greens were not in the best health after the tournament and to subject them to an aerification in that condition was not the best scenario. I will try to plan better next time around. The greens will recover, maybe not as fast as in previous years. To pull a core from the greens always lengthens the recovery time, but this process is a necessary evil.

We will begin aerification on tees and fairways once I get my staff stabilized. With students back in school I will need to be on top of my game to keep priorities in check. I hope you all have had a great golf season here at Valley View. It has been stressful on my part due to all the new staff members and countless hours of training. Yes, we are still training, and it is now September! Hopefully, the pace will slow down, and we can all take a few deep breaths. Take care and...GO CATS!





# KEN HODGSON

F&B MANAGER



September is upon us! It must be time for shorter days, cooler weather and Cats games!

We are approaching autumn weather, and the restaurant will be featuring our famous New England Clam Chowder on Fridays. As the month progresses, we will also feature other daily homemade soup options. Our dinner entrée menu will remain throughout the golf season.

Also, it is time to remind some of you to use up your restaurant food credit. Don't wait until October to do so. It is tough on our crew when we get inexplicably busy during the last two weeks of October and we are not adequately staffed for it. So please try to get in here and see us soon, while the weather is still amazing and we are still staffed accordingly. Come check out our daily 980 lunch and dinner specials. Also, stop by and try one of our thoughtful daily drink specials.

Lastly, it seems very early to think about it; but it is time to start booking your Holiday parties with us. The December calendar is filling up! Some of you have already booked but there are still plenty of dates available. Email the restaurant at [restaurant@vvgcbozeman.com](mailto:restaurant@vvgcbozeman.com) to inquire about available dates or menus.

Thank you all for your continued support!



# MALCOLM DAVISON

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



**What's your favorite hole at Valley View—and why?**

Hole #14 it has the best view in my opinion and if you can get on in 2 its very rewarding. It is also the first hole I ever eagled.

**If you could trade jobs with anyone at the club for a day, who would it be?**

I would love to switch with Gary so I can choose the days hole placement.

**What's your go-to snack or drink after a long shift?**

A Roy Rogers.

**What's one thing most members wouldn't guess about you?**

I want to fly Crop Dusters.

**If you could create a themed event at the club, what would it be?**

Greenskeeper Revenge Tournament.

**What's your walk-up song if life had an intro track?**

Free Bird by Lynyrd Skynyrd.

**What's a "pro tip" you'd give someone working their first day here?**

If something is broken, find Craig.

**If you could only eat one meal from the restaurant for a week, what would it be?**

Bahn Mi, extra steak.

**What's your favorite memory working at Valley View?**

Early one morning I was gassing carts and I saw an eagle catch a fish in the lake.

**Who's your dream golf foursome—famous or fictional?**

John Daly, Min Woo Lee, Winston Churchill

**Thanks to each of our club team members for their dedication!**

**There is a lot going on "behind the scenes" from before sunrise to after sunset to make members' time at Valley View the most relaxing and enjoyable it can be.**

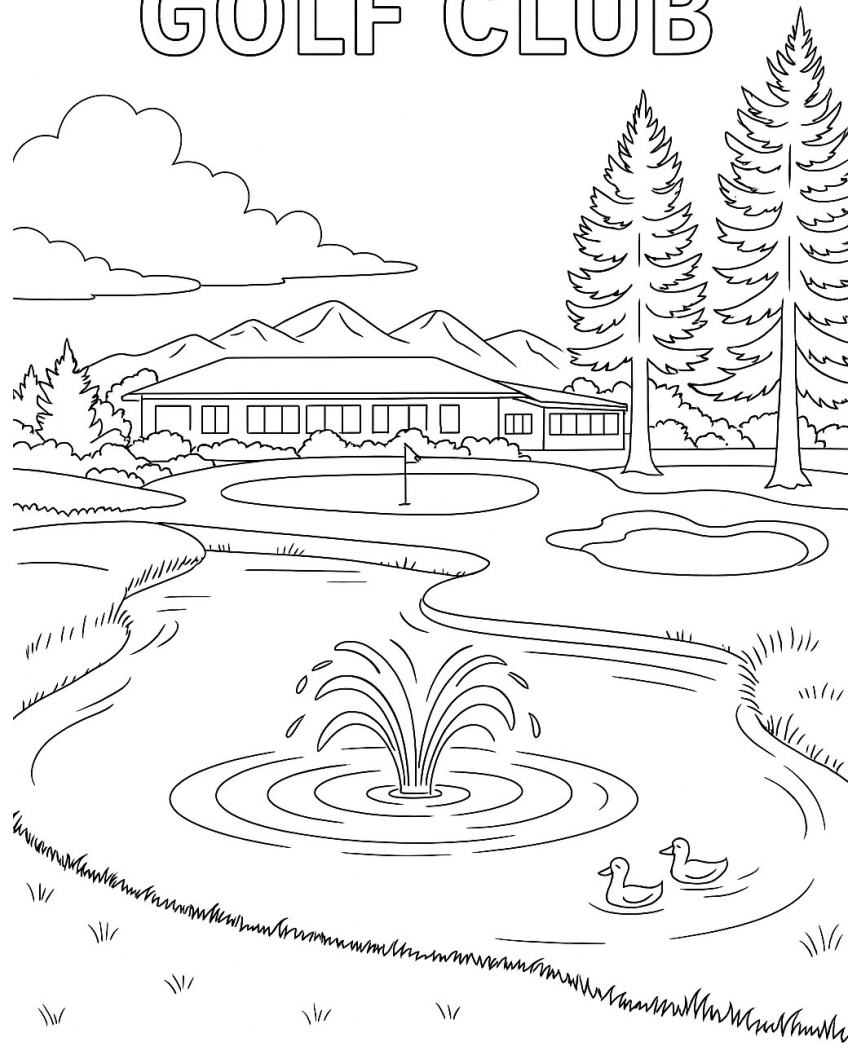




# CALLING ALL YOUNG MEMBERS

## COLORING CONTEST

### VALLEY VIEW GOLF CLUB



Click on Thumbnail to Download PDF File to Color!

**Ages 2-5:** Color the Photo to the Left. (Click to Open PDF)

**Ages 6-12:** Start with a clean sheet of paper and draw your favorite hole or location at the club.

**Upon Completion:** Write your first name and last initial on the front...full name and phone number on the back. Bring to the restaurant to be displayed. *All entrants receive a free ice cream sandwich!*

**Winners get their art showcased in October's newsletter and their pick of a ball marker from the pro shop as voted on by VVGC staff. All art will remain in the clubhouse for the rest of the 2025 season!**





# VVGC PURSE DRIVE

GIVING BACK

## 💜 Valley View Ladies – Purse Drive for HAVEN 💜

**September – October 15th**

👜 Donate a new or gently used purse

📦 Fill it with a gift card or self-care items

(lotion, lip gloss, nail polish, manicure sets, etc.)

📌 Donation boxes located:

Ladies' Locker Room

Upstairs by the Coat Rack

✨ Last time we collected 30 purses – let's do it again (and more!)  
to support HAVEN, our local women's shelter.

💜 Thank you for your generosity! 💜





# SUPPORT BOBCAT GOLF

GIVING BACK



## Yellowstone Intercollegiate

Hosted by Montana State Women's Golf  
September 15–16, 2025 | Riverside Country Club

### Division I Golf Returns to Bozeman!

Montana State Women's Golf is proud to host the Inaugural Yellowstone Intercollegiate, bringing 11 Division I teams to compete over two exciting days:

- Monday, Sept. 15 → 36 holes of competition
- Tuesday, Sept. 16 → Final round

Come support Bobcat Women's Golf as they showcase elite NCAA competition right here in Montana!

### Get Involved

We are looking for volunteers to help make this event a success.  
Or, simply come out and cheer on the Bobcats!

[Sign Up to Volunteer](#)



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# MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

NEWS



**Valley View Golf Club has expectations for member conduct and course care. Our Rules and Regulations outline these responsibilities in detail, but here are areas that need improvement from members and our guests.**

**PACE OF PLAY**

4 Hours or Faster  
Keep Up With Prior Group

**DIVOT REPAIR**

Replace (if Deep)  
Seed (if Shallow)

**PITCH MARKS**

Repair Yours  
Repair Others

**GREEN SCUFFS**

Walk With Care  
Don't Shuffle or Twist

**BUNKERS**

Rake To Edge  
Leave Rakes in Bunker

**MUSIC**

Don't Assume Its OK  
If Others Hear, Too Loud

**CONDUCT**

Quiet and Respectful  
Members + Kids + Guests

**APPEARANCE**

Collared Shirts  
No Flip Flops, Cutoffs

**BROKEN TEES**

Broken Tees by Markers  
Cleanup Tees on Range

**RESPECT**

Fellow Members  
Club Staff





# ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEWS

## NEW FULL MEMBERS

Logan Grant  
Carl Pearson  
Edward Hobart

## OUTGOING MEMBERS

Randy Brescini Wheeler  
Garth & Carolyn Sime  
Sam Coulter

## NEW DINING AFFILIATES

Casey and Molly Vermette  
Jennifer and Luke Unger  
Troy and Randy McQuagge

## HOLE-IN-ONE CELEBRATIONS

None in August

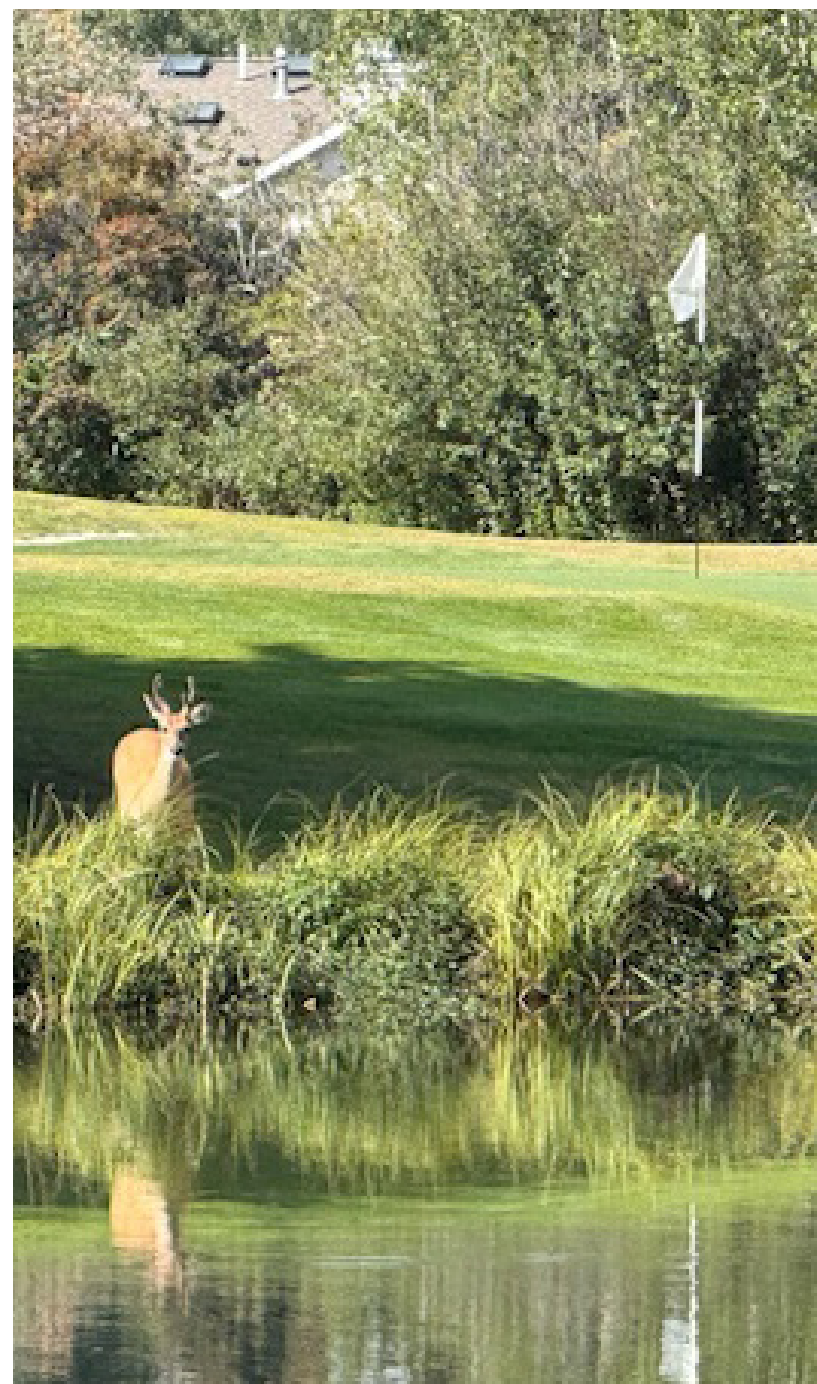
If you get a Hole-In-One report it to the Pro Shop along with your witness.  
Members receive a \$200 credit on your bill (usually used up by your bar tab).  
Also, don't be shy about taking a picture for the newsletter.

## VVGC Club Calendar

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

## Upcoming Events

Thursday September 11: Belgrade twent one seventy seven JV Invitational  
Thursday, September 18: Bozeman Invitational  
Friday, September 19: MSU Lacrosse Tournament  
Sunday September : Short Grass Scramble  
Sunday, October 5: VVGC One-Person Scramble  
Monday and Tuesday August 25-26: Aerify Greens







# LEADERSHIP

## CLUB CONTACTS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Ken Mosby, President**

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**Lindsey Hurlburt, Director**

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**Mike Schottler, Vice President**

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**Course Maintenance**

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406 | 586-2145 Ext. 4





# LEADERSHIP



**Craig Johnson**  
General Manager



**Ted Babcock, PGA**  
Director of Golf



**Gary Colstad**  
Superintendent



**Ken Hodgson**  
F&B Manager



**Danielle McMahon**  
Office Manager



**Jack Thorsen, PGA**  
Head Professional



**Jeff Hardee, PGA**  
Assistant Professional



**Ethan Krein**  
Assistant Superintendent







VALLEY  
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