

Rock Harbor News

December 2016

Members Christmas Social

Members Christmas Social, 2016. One of our highest attended socials ever. No official count, but The Grill was at capacity and maybe even a little beyond. If you missed this year, you missed homemade tarts, scallops wrapped in bacon, gifts galore and wall to wall members. Here are a few shots from the evening.....



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Member Corner: Sterling Keen

Ask someone to describe themselves in 3-5 words and you can usually get an honest answer right away, but once the person hears out loud what they have said, they change their mind. I think the first answer that comes to your mind is usually the correct one. When I asked Sterling to describe himself in 3-5 words he said "happy go lucky". Then he said.... "Golf Fanatic"....then he said... "I've got it.... 'Community Minded, Golf Fanatic' " Nailed it! I liked the first answer and thought it was spot on, but the answer he finally came to was just a little more refined, it fits just as well. After graduating from H.S., Sterling attended Johnson C Smith University in Charlotte NC. He graduated with a major in Economics and a minor in Recreation. Several jobs followed graduation but none gave him the fulfillment he was looking for. Electronics seemed to be his passion, he said that as a child he was always pulling the backs off radios and getting shocked, so he joined the Navy in 1979 to pursue a career as an Electronics Technician. Interesting note, that during Boot Camp in San Diego, Chip Connelly was also in attendance, same time same place, but neither knew the other until RH. Sterling spent 8 years serving his

country stationed in Charleston SC. He was a Navigation Electronics Technician aboard a Nuclear Submarine. He did 6 tours of 3 months at sea, 3 months on land. Then he moved to shore duty where he taught and trained others to do his job. After leaving the Navy, Sterling moved into civilian life and basically did what he was doing in the Navy, he retired from Lockheed Martin after 28 years of service. So many times we are defined by our career, but that is not how Sterling wanted to be seen. It was his charity, Fairways for Youth, that he wanted to highlight. The charity Sterling and his wife, Charlotte run is dedicated to nurturing young people and specifically those with autism. Each year they hold a tournament at Rock Harbor to raise funds for *Talk About Curing Autism*. Fairways for Youth also works with Big Brothers Big Sisters, Carson Scholars, Partners in Prevention, Inc. If you want more information visit their website: (fairwaysforyouth.org) Sterling has been a member of RH since 2014 but played here since the beginning. He lived in Ashburn until 2014, but often made the trip to play. There were no other stops along the way, only RH. When he and his wife



were deciding where to live after he retired, Winchester was one of the places they took a hard look at, and finally won them over after a night out at Apple Blossom. They attended the Jazz Festival the year it was held at RH and talked with many other couples who had retired in Winchester, our little town was given rave reviews which helped them make their decision. One of Sterlings favorite holes is Rock #15, most of the time he likes it and looks forward to playing it, he also likes No. 4 Boulder. One of his least favorite holes in Boulder No. 15, he says, Its long and the green is very, very, very challenging. Sterlings' golf motto is "Tee it high, let it fly and have fun." Sounds pretty happy-go-lucky to me.



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Pictorial Diary:

This picture was taken 16 years ago. We had just purchased our first digital camera for the golf course, it had one (1) pixel. The definitive landmarks should help you determine which hole this is now, but don't be fooled, it has had many faces through the years. But, this hole was always destined to be what it is now.



*TO GOLF OR NOT TO GOLF??
WHAT A STUPID QUESTION*

Rock Harbor News

? Ask Denny: What is the Most Unique Hole at Rock Harbor?

Denny Perry:

There are a lot of words I like to use when describing specific holes at Rock Harbor: Unique, challenging, strategic, risk & reward, fun to play, creative shot making, options, and aesthetics. These are a few of the



words used to describe what I think is the most unique hole at Rock Harbor, Number 16 Rock. This hole tends to bring out the full gauntlet of emotions within a golfer. There is probably not a golfer at Rock Harbor who doesn't have a story to tell about No. 16. The hole started out on paper as a simple thought of wanting a drivable par four, but as with many of the holes, what started out to be simple quickly evolved into something quite different once the actual construction of the hole started. We know there has been at least one hole-in-one on this hole, but surprisingly, no one has come forward to claim the highest score on this hole. If you have a story to share about No. 16 Rock, contact Misty (misty@rockharborgolf.com), keep it family friendly and we might print it in next months newsletter.

