



## CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Gung Hay Fat Choy!!! Happy New Year to all in this year of the Rabbit. Are you a rabbit? Were you born in the year 1939, 1951, 1963, or 1975? Then I hope you got to a hoppin' good start. We were so fortunate that in January, we had several weeks of uninterrupted play—and in February for a minute, it seemed like summer. But then, it rained and the cold weather set in, and then it rained some more. Needless to say, we've had a couple of cancellations due to weather, but that's to be expected. After all, it is sill winter.

I'd like to congratulate our monthly Captain's trophy winners. Young Kerr won in January and Karen Buesing in February.

It is my pleasure to welcome a couple of new members, Makiko Kubo and Mimi Spearing as well as new associate member, Michelle Ney.

Change, change, change... In our attempt to go paperless we are moving to our eClub website for membership news, new member information, and calendar changes.

As you know our March General Meeting was postponed because the STGC banquet room is undergoing renovations that won't be completed until the end of March. We're hoping to have our meeting on April 7 in a brand new room. Keep your fingers crossed. By the way, if you purchased lunch, it will be carried over to the new meeting date. If you haven't, please support the club and Mary Forster's concerted efforts in providing some good eats.

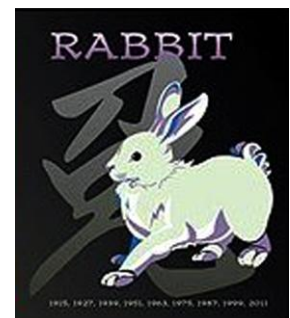
Because the next General meeting is moving to April 7<sup>th</sup> the next board meeting will be postponed to May 12<sup>th</sup> and the following General Meeting to June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

On the afternoon of March 31<sup>st</sup>, the golf course is hosting a tournament in honor of Cesar Chavz. Our club and the public are scheduled for a shotgun at 8 a.m. We will start on the front nine and there will be no waiting when we come back to play #1.

I wish to thank our budget committee; Dora Moutafian, Irene Mohler, Namie Takatsuka and Joan Takemoto. They were charged with auditing the books for 2010 and dealing with the \$700 shortfall to our 2011 budget due to declining membership. If the new budget is approved on April 7<sup>th</sup>, we will see a few changes which include the elimination of; one of the three "bottle shoots", the partner aggregate best ball-twosome tournament, the annual Captain's Trophy overall winner award and the Captain's end-of-the -year gift. Like Gov. Jerry Brown, we'll have to do with less fat. The committee did a masterful job and I commend them on their dedication and work.

We're off and hopping. See you all out on the course.

*Barbara Hiura*





### SPRING ECLECTIC

It's time for the Spring Eclectic to start for 2011. Due to weather conditions our play day was cancelled on February 24<sup>th</sup>, the first day of the EC. You will be happy to know that EC will be extended to April 21<sup>st</sup>.



Therefore, we will still have our 8 weeks. This year we have 43 players participating and there are 7 flights. Cindy Moon, co-chairperson, and I thank you for supporting this event and are looking forward to seeing everyone's scores improve weekly in fun and spirited competition. Play well!

*Mary Miyahara*



*-Notice of Change-*

### HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

There will be a change in the format of the 'Handicap Tournament' this year. Rather than have qualifying rounds and three weeks of play, the board approved a proposal by Pat Skavdahl to change to a two-week, partnership/match play tournament. There will be four teams per flight with partners having no more than seven strokes difference in their handicaps. Teams One and Three and Two and Four will play one another the first week. The winners will play one another the second week and the losers play one another as well. There will be three places paid in each flight. With the two week format, it is hoped that there will be greater participation and less stress in the tournament.



### NEW MEMBERS

I'm happy to announce we have three new members to our club. Mimi Spiering signed up as a regular member and was referred by Carol Shields. Michelle Ney is a returning member and signed up as an associate. Makiko Kubo qualified as a regular member and is establishing a handicap. When you see one of these players signed up on the tee sheet, please be sure to welcome them on the play day.

They are registered on the eClub web site, <http://santateresa.ghinclub.com/>. You can get their address, phone number and email address from MEMBERS menu.

*Patty Yelvington* Co-Captain



Note to New Members: In the bathroom there are photos of all the members on the wall. We'd like to include you as well. Please see Joan Takemoto or Jan La Fetra and have your photo taken.





# Rally for the Cure

April 28

We will be having our FIFTH annual Rally for the Cure tournament this year on April 28<sup>th</sup>. In the four years we have raised over \$11,000 for this worthwhile cause. I hope that we can have an equally successful Rally again this year.

As before, participation will require \$20 cash or a check written to the *Rally for a Cure*. For this you will receive a Rally for the Cure tote bag and your choice of magazines: *Golf Digest*, *Self*, *Bon Appetit* or *Architectural Digest*. AND everyone who participates and gets on the green on hole #7 (from the lower tee box) will receive a Titleist pink ribbon golf ball. The person who is closest to the pin on that day and participating in the *Rally for a Cure* event will receive a special prize.



THANK YOU



## TEAMPLAY 2011

Every year Santa Teresa fields a team for Santa Clara County teamplay. We are always looking for more participants.

If you aren't familiar with teamplay here is what we do. During the months of April and May we play at 8 different courses in Santa Clara County. Each club will have a team of 8 players. The competition is best ball of a twosome in match play format. Two of our players will play in a foursome with two players from another club. At the end of each hole the best gross and best net scores of our team for that hole are compared to the best gross and net scores of the other two players (our competitors). A point is awarded to the team with the lowest score for a hole or ½ point if we tie. So, even if you have a horrible hole you can win if you partner plays well on that hole. Total scores are not considered in match play.

The members who participate in teamplay will tell you that it is a fun format and a great way to play other courses and meet players from other clubs. You even develop a closer relationship with your Santa Teresa partner who typically has a handicap which is close to you own.

If you think this is something you would like to try, I have listed the dates, times and locations of the clubs we will be playing this year. For most of the dates we already have a team, but I could really use a few more backups. They often get to play.

Please send me an email at [cathypriest@earthlink.net](mailto:cathypriest@earthlink.net) if you would like to join us this year and give me the dates when you can play.

*Cathy Priest, Team Capt.*

April 4	Monday	Summitpointe	8:00 shotgun
April 15	Friday	Santa Clara WGC	8:00 shotgun
April 20	Wednesday	Spring Valley	10:30 tee time
April 27	Wednesday	Coyote Creek	8:00 shotgun
May 6	Friday	Sunnyvale	10:30 tee time
May 13	Friday	Santa Clara Fairways	8:00 shotgun
May 17	Tuesday	Shoreline	10:00 tee time
May 24	Tuesday	Palo Alto	9:45 tee time

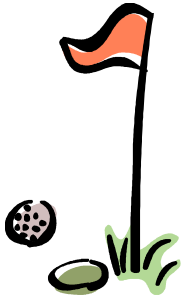


Pace-of-Play Keep up with the group in front of you— as you approach the green, make sure your equipment is not getting in the way of the group behind you as they make their approach shots.



## TOURNAMENT

We have heard only compliments on Patty Yelvington's hard work to organize our tee times on a weekly basis and email alert the membership to our tee-times. **Thank you, Patty!**



Two play days in February have been canceled due to the rainy, cold days—and we've had to massage the schedule to accommodate other cancellations and changes. We'd like to endorse your checking the eClub site: <http://santateresa.ghinclub.com/> to view the current, updated schedule.

Scorecards      Players should be listed by handicap ranking—lowest handicap first. Make sure your scorecard matches your foursome—and, print legibly! For modified games such as "3 Little Pigs", a sample scorecard will be displayed at check-in.

At the Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting, we discussed:

1. Orange Tee Play. The board has suggested continuation of the Orange Tee policy—with two points. Be sure to specify at sign-up whether you wish to play the orange tee. A minimum of 3 players signing up for the Orange Tee will be considered for sweeps awards.
2. Best Ball Twosome Tournament (scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>). Because of budgetary considerations, this tournament has been canceled and will be replaced by another game TBD.
3. Guest Day will be considered Open Play to any players. A member may invite up to three female guests, dependent upon space availability as determined by Tournament Chair.

We are open to suggestions and comments—so please let any of us know your concerns.

*Ann, Emi, Namie and Patty*

1<sup>st</sup> Tee Group      If you are in the 1<sup>st</sup> group, please feel free to realign any tee markers forward for the day's play.



## Do Handicaps Work?

A couple of years ago when I was Chair of the Partner Tournament I tried an experiment. I was interested to see if the 7 handicap limit between players was really necessary to keep the tournament fair for all.

After the first day cards were in I picked 6 cards – two mid handicappers (20 to 29), two high handicappers (30 and above), and two low handicappers (19 or less). In each case I picked cards with nets between 74 and 78, (trying to stay with 75 when possible), which meant the player was playing about average for her.

Then I paired the cards in different ways: a mid with a high handicapper; a mid with a low handicapper; two mids together; two highs together; and two lows together. Then I figured the results, and they were amazingly similar. When two players are playing an 'average for them' game, it doesn't really matter what the handicaps are.

When I compared the results of the real tournament I found that in each of the winning teams one player (and sometimes both) had played exceptionally well on at least one of the two days. So there is no combination that ensures a win. If you want to win, pick someone who will play exceptionally well on at least one of the days. Unfortunately, there is no real way to do that in advance!

However, I also found what one might expect: low handicappers tend to be more consistent, while high handicappers tend to have exceptional holes where their 2 or 3 'pops' make a real difference. And, as expected, mid handicappers are somewhere in between – they provide a steadying influence when paired with a high handicapper, and can come up with some exceptional holes especially on holes where they get 2 'pops'.

Also, some players do their best under pressure, and others (like me) tend to wilt under pressure and play best when nothing much is at stake.

The moral of this is if you want to win this kind of tournament, pick someone who tends to do well under pressure and whom you enjoy playing with, and then hope one of you has a really good day.

*Jan La Fetra*

