

FOOTPRINTS

JANUARY 2023

IN THE SAND



SANDYPINES
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY
READY, SET, RELAX.

PHONE NUMBERS

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Nichole Milbocker Ext. 100

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MemberService@SandyPines.com

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jeff@sandypines.com

Kimberly Ext. 109
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Park Inspector

Jeff Hopkins..... 616.896.7286
inspector@sandypines.com

Pumpouts-Emergency..... Ext. 111

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kent@sandypines.com

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Park & Garden

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Abby Greenfield..... Ext. 800
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Larry Finkbeiner, Manager
www.lakemontereygolf.com
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Laundromat Hours – Open 24 Hours

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer Park President
Kimberly Williams .. Finance & Accounting
Steve Deyarmond..... Emergency Services
Ben Fifelski Maintenance
Larry Finkbeiner Lake Monterey
Golf Course

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Janele Tomes Camping
Ian Mitchell Communications
Dale Yoder..... Park & Garden
Jeff Hopkins..... Park Inspector
Paul Schaaf..... Security Services
Abby Greenfield.....Recreation

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager
Golf Course Joe Zomerlei
Grounds/Maintenance Kel Kronemeyer
Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager
Policy..... Joel VanKolker
Rules Drew Torres
Safety & Security..... Rod Burch
Technology Bob Powers
Lake Study.....Jim Buchanan
Library..... Brandyce Barber

OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to providing
a fun and safe environment
where families and friends
create a lifetime of memories.



RETAIL SERVICES

Dairy Dip 616.405.5643
Just Your Style 616.896.6788
Park & Garden Store 616.896.9334
Park & Garden
Rental Office 616.896.9888

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellen Carpenter, Chairperson (25)
Rick Day (23)
Bob Deckinga (25)
Ginny Hager, Treasurer (23)
Kelly Johnson, Vice Chairperson.... (24)
Larry Munger (23)
Paul Peppel, Secretary..... (25)
Stephanie Saypanha (24)
Scot Wyman (24)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

The Sandy Pines Board of Directors will
provide positive leadership and manage-
ment direction so as to ensure the long
term viability and success of Sandy Pines
Wilderness Trails, Inc.



PARK PRESIDENT NEWS

BY JEFF SWEITZER Jeff@SandyPines.com

Happy New Year! We hope all of you had a blessed, safe, joyful and snowy (finally for us in Michigan!) Christmas and New Year as we Welcome 2023! We are blessed and excited to celebrate another year at Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course. Our remarkable staff continues to prepare for your return to the park this spring. This month will be extremely busy with many activities around numerous projects. Let's start with our 2023 Renewals!

2023 RENEWALS

Our 2023 Renewals will once again take place in the month of January. If you remember, we delayed our renewals last year while our new member portal was being developed. Most of our challenges from last year such as members receiving an invite to the new portal, members accepting the new portal invitation, member login and pump out plans have been addressed. Whether you are a new or current member, you no longer need an invite to the portal as you have already been utilizing it in 2022.

You will receive a RAVE and E-News notice that 2023 Renewals are open. Once received, you will login into your member portal account, click on RENEWALS where you will see your 2022 AND 2023 renewal. Click on the 2023 renewal link. Confirm your Member and Associate cards, the same as last year with either a RETAIN or REMOVE. Confirm your Member Property such as golf carts, boats and mopeds with a RETAIN or REMOVE. If you have changes to these items, you will need to follow our normal process of adding through your member portal site, contact Public Safety for card changes or contact Member Service for changes to member property. When moving to Leases and Service Plans, you now can Confirm or Change your Pump Out plan. There will be a selection of all the plans and schedules where you simply click the plan you would like for 2023.

Renewals will be open from January 16, 2023, through February 28, 2023. Starting March 1, 2023, billing will take place and pump out schedules will be built in preparation for the 2023 Season. If you have not submitted your renewals by the end of February 28th, all your items from 2022 will be carried over to 2023. Renewals will be approved and scheduled accordingly during the month of March. In addition, changes to pump out plans will not be available after the March 1st deadline as schedules will be in the process of being built. 2023 renewals will appear on your April statement.

If you have any questions, please contact Member Service.

PROJECTS

Spectrum Charter construction continues onsite this month. Timelines indicate completion in time for our April 2023 opening. This month all members will be receiving a Welcome Letter explaining when you need to contact Spectrum Charter, how to establish your account and what you need to do to receive your equipment. If you choose to do the self-installation option, you will need to sign an agreement returning your old equipment and receipt of your

new equipment. More details will be provided as we get closer to the season opening. We will also be establishing a FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) section on our website for members to ask questions.

Phase 2 pool project continues to progress to meet our 2024 timing. A third-party surveyor has flagged the area to identify our current and reserve drain fields. Requests for proposals have been reviewed. Once the proposals are reviewed with the Pool Committee, we will plan to make a contractor selection. We will also be adding a FAQ section for the Phase 2 Pool Project on our website this month.

Lake Development projects remain stalled until EGLE representatives review our plans on-site at the park. We have a tentative review set with them this month to review our plans for the dam rip rap as well as Phase 3 dredging. We are doing everything possible to try to move these projects forward while the lake levels are low, we are in the off-season and members will not be hindered by the construction. We remain hopeful we can still get those done prior to our 2023 season opening.

Staff Lunch and Learns are starting this month. We will focus on updates made in the system, portal direction to members in prep for renewals and overall system education and training to be more efficient to serve our members.

STORE AND RESTAURANT

We have received much interest in re-opening the restaurant and store at Sandy Pines. We have spoken to 6 interested parties. Discussions have ranged from leasing the restaurant only to leasing both the restaurant and store. We hope to finalize discussions this month. Stay tuned for further communication.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM

We are pleased to welcome our new Lake Monterey golf course Superintendent Keith Buege. See The Lake Monterey Golf Course News section for more information on Keith. Larry will continue to do a great job for us as General Manager in 2023.

We also welcome Dale Yoder into his new role as Park and Garden Manager in 2023. Dale will be replacing Jack Schmidt who retired at the end of 2022 season after 11 years. We are excited to have Dale take over this leadership role. Dale is very familiar with our Park and Garden, Rentals and servicing our members. He will be a great addition to the leadership team.

2023 FOCUS

As we kick off 2023, our staff highlighted specific areas we are focusing on in 2023. Communication among the departments and members is the first area of focus. Our team will strive to provide better communication to ensure, timely and consistent communication. The second area of

Continued on Page 4

Park President News / Continued From Page 3

focus is Policies and Procedures to ensure all departments are aligned and working smoothly as well as efficiently. You may start seeing some of these policies and procedures communicated in upcoming Footprints articles. The last area is training to be better prepared for the upcoming season. This will focus on system training as highlighted previously in our Lunch and Learns. It will also focus on other training aspects such as CPR, First Aid, Customer Service, etc. All these areas are to help our staff continue to serve our members to the best of their ability as well as to help make their jobs more efficient.

Our staff continues to work hard to be prepared for your 2023 arrival. We are blessed to have many talented individuals on our staff to serve our members. Please review all our department articles to get the latest information.

You are probably noticing a change to our Footprints starting this month in January 2023. Ian continues to do an excellent job meeting our communication needs. We hope you like the changes! For more on these changes, please see his article this month.

In the spirit of the New Year and New Beginnings, below are some thoughts for starting anew! We wish you all the best in 2023!

Ephesians 4:22-24

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful

desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

Isiah 40:31

but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

God Bless

A QUICK MESSAGE FROM THE PARK PRESIDENT



SCAN TO WATCH NOW!

COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY IAN MITCHELL ian@SandyPines.com

New Footprints

Welcome to the new and improved Footprints! We have updated the size to a standard 8.5 x 11" document. The goal of this was to increase the readability and help keep you informed. This new standard sizing will give members the ability to print at any standard printer if they prefer to read the Footprints Magazine in hand.

If you are reading this online, you will notice we have also made some improvements to the digital version of the Footprints Magazine as well. This will give us the ability to embed videos, attach clickable links, and so much more!

We hope you enjoy the new and improved Footprints!

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Sincere Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

David and Holly Thomas, site 869, on the passing of their mother **Gladys M. Kincaid**, a former Sandy Pines member at site 869.

Lori and Mike Vanderwall, site 4344, on the passing of **Lori's dad Bill Van Egmond**, who passed unexpectedly on December 19, 2022. Please keep Lori and Mike in your prayers.

Follow Us on Social Media!

GET CONNECTED FOR ALL OF OUR LATEST NEWS & UPDATES!



on Facebook [@SandyPinesWildernessTrails](#)



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on Twitter [@SandyPinesWT](#)

MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICOLE KLINGE & NICHOLE MILBOCKER MemberService@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Contact Information

Phone: 616-896-8315 x 0

Fax: 616-896-7409

Email: MemberService@SandyPines.com

Convenience Centers Open This Winter

Phase 1 - CC2, CC 5

Phase 4 - CC 10

Phase 5 - CC 12, Waterpark, and North Shore Center

All others CC's are closed

Annual Dues

If you are making monthly payments, your account balance as of December 25th should be at or below \$1202.76 to be on track with the payment plan. You can check your balance by logging into Member Web Access/Online Billing tab, or by calling Member Service. Your January quarterlies are due in excess of your dues/assessments payment. Remember: If you are using the payment plan, your account was past due after October 25 and the 1.5% Finance charge is applied to your monthly balance. Remaining at or below each monthly max balance keeps you in good standing, but the finance charge still applies. A missed payment or balance overage after the October max balance will result in magnetic card deactivation with a reactivation rate of \$35.00 per card.

- October 25, 2022\$1,975.28
- November 25, 2022.....\$1591.90
- December 25, 2022.....\$1202.76
- January 25, 2023\$807.79
- February 25, 2023.....\$406.89
- March 25, 2023\$0

Quarterly Electric & Unit Tax Quarterly Electric and Unit Tax are billed in January, April, July, and October. Electric meters are read once per year in August. Your bill is based on total kilowatt hours used. You pay for your adjusted final electric use in October, then your total use is divided by four and you pay those quarterly amounts in January, April, and July. This is why you get an electric bill in January even though you may not be in the park during that time. You can view and print your annual electric use by logging into Member Web Access. Unit Tax is billed as \$9.50 per quarter per site.

We have been auditing and bringing all our records up to date one by one as much as possible. As we are getting ready for the new year. Many questions and issues handled by calling Member Service can be found in your Member Web Access Portal. We are here to help but want to make sure you know you have the ability to handle many issues from the comfort of your own home. Login to Member Web Access by clicking the Quick Link at SandyPines.com/Members.

Happy New Year!

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HAPPY CAMPER TEXT ALERT

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE SMS ALERTS & STAY
UPDATED ON PARK EVENTS INCLUDING ALERTS,
CANCELLATIONS, UPDATES, & MORE!

To Opt-In: Text "SANDYPINES" to 67283
To Opt-Out: Text "STOP" to 67283

YOU MAY SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE AT ANY TIME



BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY PAUL PEPPEL BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com

180-Day Rule

Ushering in a new year is accompanied by many traditions. Football games galore, enjoying friends and family, eating far too much, surfing the net for hangover cures. And, of course, a reset on Sandy Pines' 180-day rule. Allow me to explain:

In the eyes of the State of Michigan, SP is licensed as a not-for-profit seasonal campground aka Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc as established in 1971 (it is not member-owned as some believe). Because of this arrangement, the Park can only be "open" half of the year. However, since we own our units and can't be denied access regardless of time of year, members have the ability to come and go as we please. But only for a maximum of 180 days in a calendar year.

There is a common misconception that card swipes (or, beginning in 2023, proximity usage) are the determining factor in park use. It is a tool to be sure albeit with severe limitations. For instance, if you had to leave (and subsequently re-enter) the park multiple times in one day, it wouldn't be fair for that

to count for multiple days. Conversely, if you stayed solely in the park for a week straight and never left, it would be unjust to calculate your single swipe as just one day. Thus, in addition to swipe counts, visual observation both by PSO patrols and cameras are utilized to calculate actual usage far more accurately.

By adhering to this somewhat confining rule, we continue to enjoy the financial benefit of campground status. Overall costs for what we enjoy during the summer remain much lower than comparable parks. And are microscopic compared with owning your own land and its associated monetary obligations. Rest assured, if you approach the day limit, the Park will send out a notification to keep you from exceeding it. And, unless you spend a lot of the off-season on leaves or other chores in the park, the likelihood of you approaching this number is very small. Any other questions? Don't hesitate to reach out to us at BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com.

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FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS Kim@SandyPines.com

Happy New Year!

Last month, just prior to Christmas, the Board of Directors and Finance Committee members met on December 16th, 2022 to review the September 30, 2022 (Fiscal Year End 2022), October 31, and November 30, 2022 (first of FY2022) for both Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc. and Lake Monterey Golf Course, LLC. Please refer to the Board of Directors page on the SP website for the recording of the Board Meeting. The financial statements are available on the Sandy Pines webpage under the Members and Finance tab. These are preliminary financial statements prior to tax-basis adjustments and are currently in the review process with SPWT's external accountants for our tax filing. Below is a summary of the financial results for both entities at FYE2022:

Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails (FYE2022)

Operational cash as of FYE2022 is approximately \$1.1M higher than prior year which included the recouped FEMA cost and reimbursement from prior year.

There are currently 219 days of cash reserve (equivalent to 7.3 months). There are 132 days of cash reserve after the transfer of operational funds for the Phase 2 Pool per membership vote (equivalent to 4.38 months). A healthy cash reserve for a not-for-profit organization is between 3-6 months.

The Charles Schwab Investment Account decreased by \$243k in 2022, however, we are starting to see a pick-up in the early months of FY2023.

LMGC paid SPWT \$75K toward the Long-term note receivable on 9-30-2022.

Land Improvements under fixed assets increased by \$1.5M, with the majority related to the golf cart crossing.

Gross Revenue increased by \$333k, while the total net income loss for the FY2022 was (\$262,505). The Operating Loss in 2022 was (\$24k).

Again although 2022 did not show a net profit for the year, the majority was attributed to unrealized losses on investments, equal to (\$286k). Without the unrealized loss, SPWT closed the year close to a net zero. The cash flow increase from cash-related income after taking out depreciation costs was \$515k.

Admin

- Member Service Income was down (\$56k) and Inspection Income was down (\$43k), but up \$5k from prior year. Tree Removal Expense was also \$21k over budget due to a large cleanup of trees at the end of September 2022.

Maintenance

- Maintenance Income was up \$10k in FY2022. Overall Net Income for Maintenance was (\$52k). Salaries and Wages were over \$32k due to staffing adjustments and coverage during the year. R/M Equip was (\$21k) over and Grounds Maintenance (\$24k) over budget.

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Finance & Accounting News / Continued From Page 6

Public Safety

- Public Safety Net Income was (\$42k) over budget. Gross Revenue was down (\$29K), attributed to a drop in violations and guest passes. Salaries and Expenses were (\$56k) over budget with restructuring and needs to meet market demands.

Recreation

- Overall Gross Income for Recreation is \$26k over prior year. The income net of COGS was \$6k over the prior year and \$10k over budget. Salaries were over budget \$10k with staff restructuring and the need to meet market demands. Social Activities was also significantly over budget with the majority being related to the loss from the weather cancellation of Food Trucks & Tunes.

Resort Services

- Resort Net Operational Income was \$173k over budget and \$197k over prior year.

Park and Garden

- P&G had a Net Profit of \$13k at the FYE2022, and the majority of cost increase related to the drop is due to the heightened inflation prices the economy is facing right now.

Golf Rental

- Golf Rentals had a Net Profit Income of \$77k, 2.8% over budget.

Retail Income

- The Retail Center Department also noticed pressure with inflation and the continuous increase on gasoline costs at the end of the year. Currently, the gasoline sales is purely sold inter-departmental and not sold to the public with the current operating system. Administration is working with the State to finalize the approval and plans to replace the current pump.

Sales

- Sales ended the year with a Net Profit of \$780k, which is \$20k under prior year, however \$255k over budget. Commission Income from Sales in the park increased \$80k and covers the (\$15k) drop in For Sale by Owners. The Operating Expense for Sales is \$147k over prior year and \$85k under budget for FYE2022.

Lake Monterey Golf Course (FYE2022)

Net income was \$30k higher than the prior year with \$20k attributed to clubhouse sales, food beverages, and merchandise. Cash ended as of FY2022 \$80k higher than the prior year.

Again, the LMGC Financials shows that the SPWT Note Payable was also paid down \$75k at 9-30-2022.

Annual Dues Payment Schedule

For your reference and information, below is the payment plan schedule if you have elected to make monthly installments to

pay for you Annual Dues and Assessments. Your monthly payment this year is \$406.91, and is payable on the 25th of each month, from Oct 2022 thru March 2023. This payment plan is allowed for dues and assessments only. To stay current within the payment plan, your balance owed at the end of each month for 2022-2023 must equal the following on each date listed below:

October 25	\$1,975.28
November 25	\$1,591.90
December 25	\$1,202.76
January 25	\$ 807.79
February 25.....	\$406.89
March 25.....	\$0.00– All dues and assessments paid

The best way to determine the amount owed on your account when following the payment plan is to take the current month's balance invoiced to you and subtract the correlating maximum monthly balance as highlighted above. For example, if your statement sent out on December 1st is \$1,300.00, subtract the amount highlighted above for Dec 25, \$1,202.76 and pay the difference of \$97.24. **Continued on Page 8**

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YOU MAY UNSUBSCRIBE AT ANY TIME

Finance & Accounting News / Continued From Page 7

If a monthly payment is missed, you will no longer be eligible for the monthly payment plan program and your account will go into a delinquent status, and a fee will be assessed per membership card to reactivate. If you have any concerns regarding making payment on your account, please reach out to myself or our Park President, Jeff Sweitzer.

As a reminder: All other member fees and charges billed to your account (outside of the annual dues and assessments) are due by the 25th of the subsequent month after being billed. You must add all other charges for services, electric, state unit tax, etc. to the monthly installment amount to stay within the balance plan displayed above.

Payments can be made the following ways:

- In office with Member Service Mon-Fri 8am-4pm or Public Safety 24/7 – (live payment posting)
- Directly with your bank through online bill pay (your 4-digit site number and last name are your account

number; Sandy Pines is the vendor, mailing address is the address on your statement) – (no additional fee) – (includes processing time)

- Through USPS mail by mailing a check (no additional fee) – (includes processing time)
- Online through our website (includes 3% fee) – (live payment posting)
- Over the phone with Member Service or Public Safety (includes 3% fee) – (live payment posting)

Please note a 3% convenience fee is charged for credit card payments made online or over the phone.

We are looking forward to a great 2023 shared with each of you!

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SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF Paul@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

Call Stats For November 2022

Public Safety staff responded to 31 calls for service in November 2022. The types of calls and numbers are:

Alarm	1
Animal Complaint	1
Assist.....	1
Hazardous Condition.....	3
Illegal Dumping.....	3
Missing Person.....	1
Open Door.....	10
Parking	1
Property Damage	6
Suspicious Situation	2
Traffic Violation.....	1
Trespassing	1

SNOWMOBILES

With the snowy month upon us, I just wanted to remind everyone of the Sandy Pines Snowmobile rules:

- Must be operated on Park roads, designated snowmobile trails, and Park designated areas.
- Must be driven in a safe manner and comply with the Park speed of 10 mph.
- May not emit excessive sound or create a nuisance.
- May not be driven across sites, on recreational facilities, or in green areas.
- Operators must have a State Operator’s License or State-issued snowmobile safety certificate.
- Snowmobiles may be confiscated for violations of Park rules. The snowmobile will be released to the member after a meeting with the Park President. You can find more information, along with trail maps at SandyPines.com/SnowmobileRules/

Have fun and be safe!

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RECREATION NEWS

BY ABBY GREENFIELD Recreation@SandyPines.com

Winterfest

Winterfest is right around the corner. Join us on January 21st from 11 am - 3 pm for winter fun. There will be a coffee and hot chocolate bar, cookie decorating, and a snowman building contest (weather dependent). There will be sledding – if there is snow – on the hill by the chapel. Additionally, there will be t-shirts and mugs for sale; the mugs will have the Sandy Pines Winterfest logo on them, and you will have the opportunity to decorate them yourself.

This year, we will also have dog sled demonstrations at the chapel. There will be two demonstrations starting at 11:30 am and 1:30 pm. We ask that you be respectful of the dogs and equipment. Time will be allotted to meet and greet the dogs. We need volunteers for this event, so please sign up on the Sandy Pines Website.

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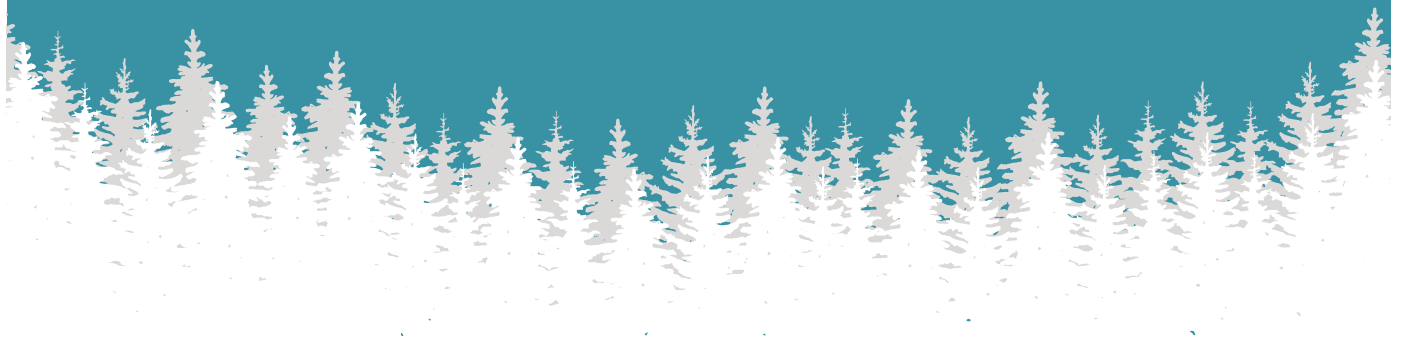


Saturday, January 21, 2023

11 am – 3 pm @ The North Shore Center

- Bonfire
- Hot Chocolate & Coffee Bar
- Hot Dog Bar
- Cookie Decorating
- Snowman Building
- Family Fun Games
- Polar Plunge
- Dog Sled Demonstrations

& more!



SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND Steve@SandyPines.com

Membership Cards

Sandy Pines no longer supports the swipe cards. These are the cards with the black magnetic stripe on the back of the card. After two years of asking members to transition to proximity cards the park has transitioned to proximity cards. Many members have transitioned to proximity cards. If you have not transitioned to a proximity card or disk, please stop at the Public Safety office, and get a proximity card.

The old swipe card technology had been used for over the last 30 years. Years ago, the park issued one barium ferrite card, issued one card per membership, and provided paper cards to the spouse and associate members. Persons with paper membership cards had to enter through the main gate. Traffic has significantly increased through the years and staff would not be able to handle all the associates and grandchildren that enter the park at the main gate.

As technology improves it cost more to maintain old equipment as the manufacture no longer wants to support old technology so the price increases. Transitioning to a proximity card resolves the issue of persons swiping cards in readers multiple times and slowing access into the park. Proximity cards are a more efficient way to enter the park.

Infrastructure

Last month I provided information regarding the inspection of the dam, its aging condition, and that work needs to occur on the upstream slope of the cement face of the dam and the corrugated pipe under the dam that connects to the spillway. Infrastructure has a finite span of life. This is just one item that is aging and will need to be worked on soon. Other items in the park are aging and have this same finite span of life.

In the past few years, construction costs have increased by 20 - 50%. An example would be the construction of Convenience Centers in phase 3. To build CC#5 or CC#6 today is estimated to be 40% more than five years ago. Inflation and increased costs to maintain existing structures are not at pace with what the park brings in as dues or from sales of goods. Just as with your household your dollar and our dollar just do not have the power to purchase the same quantity of items as before. However, we still need to buy the basics regardless of the cost. So, what happens internally within the park? Budgets and projects are reevaluated just as you would reevaluate your budget at home. Managers are asked to hold off on projects and prioritize what needs to happen.

What does this mean for the future? Years ago, the park permitted the membership to vote on projects or equipment. Many of these pieces of equipment or projects failed in the vote. Buildings deteriorated and equipment became old and sometimes repair costs over time were more than replacement. An example would be the Golden Onion in which the roof was leaking, a vote was conducted to replace the roof, but it failed, the building had a fire, and insurance paid to replace the roof.

So, what happened when votes failed, and funds were tight, and infrastructure needed to be repaired? Special assessments were levied by the Board of Directors. Some of the special assessments were improved electricity which provided a new underground wire system to service each membership. The paved roads were a special assessment. In the extended years forward, these projects had a very positive impact on the park and the value of your membership. Yes, the park has had some dark days. The park has had times in the past in which management was told we may not be able to make payroll. Fortunately, the park did make payroll and still exists. A close relationship with a bank provided the resources to continue. The park could have been lost as well as everyone's memberships or happy places. Yes, we were that close to losing everything. In today's economic climate we must be careful and realize that this is a volatile economy and be smart about spending our money and finding value in projects.

As a member, you must acknowledge that your membership and its value are directly related to the success of the park and its infrastructure. Voting "No" and not supporting the operation of the park or its infrastructure has a negative effect on your membership and its value. In these inflationary times in which the dues do not even come close to covering the rising costs, we have to be prepared for future burdens and expectations.

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CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES Janele@SandyPines.com

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 103

Email: Janele@SandyPines.com

Hello and Happy New Year! We have plenty of campsites, cabins, and trailers available for the 2023 season, tell your friends and family! Our popular trailers for rent have brand new dishes, pots and pans, coffee mugs, cups, and a little home décor has been added. New sleeper sofas have been replaced in three of the trailers, and all the cabins have new mattresses. Sandy Pines has 59 campsites throughout the park that we rent out, and we also have five park model trailers and ten rustic cabins. The trailers and cabins are not pet friendly, but we welcome furry friends on a leash at any of our rental campsites. We do offer an associate discount for our associate members, and we also offer a military discount for anyone who has served or is serving in the military. Thank you for your service! You will need to contact the camping department to have the discount applied, which you can do after you make your reservation online. Your refunded amount will go back onto your card you used at the time of purchase. Reservations can be made directly from our website at www.SandyPines.com. If you have any questions or would like me to book a reservation for you, please give me a call at 616- 896-8315 ext. 103. I would love to help and look forward to hearing from you!

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PARK INSPECTOR NEWS

BY JEFF HOPKINS Inspector@SandyPines.com

I hope you are all ready for the new year! 2022 has come and gone so cheers to a new, prosperous, and eventful year.

Boat Stakes

Over the winter months, we will be working on our boat stake challenges and adopting a new, more efficient method for marking them. It will take some time to fully implement and tag everything properly, but it will be well worth it for the members and staff.

Green Space

While driving the many miles through the park every day, I have seen some things that need to be addressed over the next few Footprints publications in preparation for the upcoming 2023 season. The first one is members' use of green space adjoining your lot. While you can use the green space for a patio/firepit (with approval by the park) with the understanding that it becomes usable to other members, you cannot have a fence completely around it nor may your fence be in the green space. The Rules Committee, Park President, and I have all noticed several fences around the park in the green space which will need to be addressed.

Those lots have been documented this off-season. The resulting outcome is that either the fence(s) will need to be moved out of the greenspace or completely taken down by our June 2023 site clean-up deadline to avoid any potential fines. Your fence may be on your site line per the Sandy Pines rules, but it cannot go over your site line or in the green space. We Thank You in advance for your cooperation in adhering to this policy.

As you all know, the park has had many new members over the last couple of years and the park has had many new updates and changes to make our Happy Place just that. While we all love to have a nice place and set up to be our own, we still have rules that we all need to follow. I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season. We look forward to an awesome 2023 Season.

Until next month!

God Bless

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LAKE MONTEREY GOLF NEWS

BY LARRY FINKBEINER www.LakeMontereyGolf.com

New Year

It's another brand-new year and we are looking forward to another exciting year at the golf course. Hopefully, many of you have had a chance to at least get some golf in during the winter months. We wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

Welcome Keith

We are pleased to announce the hiring of the new superintendent of the golf course Keith Buege. Keith comes with plenty of experience working with courses such as Railside in Grand Rapids, L.E. Kaufman, and Cascade Country Club. Keith will be focusing on chemical application and turf management working alongside Dave Spray. His previous experience at these other courses will be beneficial to accomplish the needs of our golf course.

Leagues/Events

Over the next few months, we will be preparing for the beginning of the season. If you have any questions or are looking to join a league or would like to start a league, please email me at Larry@GolfLMGC.com. We will also be posting a few new leagues that we will be starting. Be sure to follow us on Facebook or our website at www.LakeMontereyGolf.com for the latest up-to-date events.

Course Closed

The clubhouse will be closed until April 1, 2023. Please be mindful if the chains are up, the course is closed, and we ask that you do not go onto the course. If the chains are down,

then you are welcome to play, just use the drop box by the front door to drop off your golf fees.

"The 19th Hole Grill" at Lake Monterey Golf Course

We are planning on starting the lunch program on April 17th with a limited menu. We hope you can stop in and grab a bite to eat. We are also looking to do a Chili cook-off on Saturday, April 29th. Those interested in participating please email me at Larry@GolfLMGC.com. Also, will be looking for volunteers to help that day.

Golf Course Rules

Please be mindful of the following rules of the golf course:

- Absolutely no personal coolers or bringing alcohol or beer to the course.
- Always bring your Sandy Pines member or associate card to be scanned. Cards must be scanned once for each nine you are playing.
- Knobby tires and six-seater golf carts are not permissible on the golf course.
- Proper golf attire is required. No tank tops allowed. Men's shirts must have sleeves. Women's tops must be golf attire.
- Groups of 5 players or more are not allowed without prior permission.

Let's make golf fun for everyone by following these rules. We appreciate your cooperation.

Happy New Year!!! We look forward to seeing everyone in the spring and the time when we can say again, "Let's go golfing!"

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