



September 2021 Newsletter



It took a lot of work, but you can see No. 9 green a lot better now

Golfers had two weeks off, not our crew . . .

Our golf course was closed for two weeks during the “Summer Fun Fest,” this year’s version of the Sonoma County Fair.

But while nobody was able to play golf, our maintenance crew was hard at work on greens, bunkers, tees, rough, fairways . . . and cleaning up the considerable growth of weeds around the lake next to the Nos. 8 and 9 greens. They filled up two dumpsters with weeds, and while doing so, found “a whole lot of golf balls.”

We normally close during the fair, which is good for the golf course, gives it time to “rest” and gives our crew an opportunity to work on projects and improvements. While 18-hole courses can periodically shut down nine holes for that kind of work, we can’t do that, so the summer break is when we try to get a lot of things accomplished.

From all accounts, golfers like what has been done, and this is the reason we appreciate the time to work on various projects, and we appreciate your comments.

Need some work on your golf game ???

Lessons are still available at Fairgrounds from one of our Tayman Park Golf Group PGA pros. Call us at 284-3520 and we will get you set up.





Caroline Marker

Two of our regular golfers passed away in recent weeks, **Caroline Marker** and **Ralph Harms**.

Caroline usually played with her close friend, Sally Gross, while Ralph was accompanied by friends Jerry

We lost some valued 'regulars' in August . . .

Caroline Marker and Ralph Harms played a lot of golf at Fairgrounds Golf Course, and their passing leaves a void with our staff and those who knew and loved them.

Caroline, 63, and Sally were frequent visitors, and Caroline, despite dealing with cancer, always had a big smile and a positive attitude. Sally recalls one day when the two of them were just beginners and "we were really bad."

"We were celebrating loudly on the course and someone from another fairway came over to ask if we had hit a hole-in-one," recalls Sally. "I shrieked with laughter while Caroline calmly told him, 'no, but we both just shot par on the same hole for the first time . . . isn't that great?' She had a really dry sense of humor."

Caroline was born in Glen Ellen, graduated Sonoma Valley High and pursued a certificate in paralegal studies at Napa Valley CC.

She served as administrative aide to Supervisors Janet Nicholas and Michael Cale and was an administrative aide for the City of Healdsburg's Public Works Department.

Her friends recall her passion for volunteering and outreach for the community, and she could often be found gleaning for Farm to Pantry or caring for rescued animals at the Healdsburg Animal Shelter.

Sally goes on to say, "I miss her so bad it hurts, but many people cared about her and that makes it somehow better."

Ralph, who also battled cancer, and his buddies played often, and always walked off the course laughing and smiling, no matter how they played golf.

Ralph, 85 and a former Green Beret, had done many things in his life, including pro boxing and coaching youth boxing, running marathons (29 of them, 13 in a 12-month period!), competing in Senior Track and Field, coaching high school track, owning his own bakery and working as a fitness instructor at the YMCA.

He was an original and things won't be quite the same at Fairgrounds . . . the same goes for Caroline, a gentle, caring woman. They will be missed.

