



Around THE Club

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Connie Ortbals – Editor (cloandwjnew@gmail.com)

December 2025



The Putterflies did their usual great job decorating the Club for the Holidays. What a beautiful tree. And what a lovely way to spread holiday cheer. Thank you all!

It has been quite a season for giving, sponsored by members of the MWGA. Carolyn Skorich, Linda Carey and Karen Kozlowski again put

together the Angel Tree, which led to a donation of 100 bags of gifts to the Mascotte Charter School and 50 for the local Guardian ad Litem.

Lisa Ritchey spearheaded the collection of food for Thanksgiving baskets, and was able to put together enough baskets to feed 42 families Thanksgiving dinner.

The Monarch members and Royal Highlands community are so very generous. Thank you for opening your hearts and pocketbooks to less fortunate families and children.

Luis Colon-General Manager **COUPLES CHAMPIONSHIP**

Let's extend a huge thanks to the 48 golf members that signed up to play in the 2025 Couple's Club Championship tournament. You are what makes your club a special place! This was the largest members' participation in this event during my five years running it. This is to your credit and the Golf Committee's credit. Keep it going members!

Below are the results. Let bragging rights begin!

NET WINNERS

GROSS WINNERS



Esther and Keith Patterson 1st Place with a 74



Chris and Mandi Shaw – 1st Place – Net 65



Harold and Joan Beasley -2nd Place with a 75



Susan and Jeff Scott – 2nd Place – Net 66



Susan and Tim Clements – 3rd Place with a 76



Keith Beile and Carolyn Upchurch -3rd Place – Net 67

MWGA-Connie Ortbals

This year marked the Inaugural Crown Cup Tournament which we hope to continue with even more participation! Thanks to all who stepped up to play. Looking forward to this becoming an annual event.

Bobbie Iredale and Esther Patterson competed in the final pairing. It was a tight match, but Esther earned the championship ending 3 up with 1 to play. She certainly brought her A Game.



Pictured: Esther Patterson

MATCH PLAY:

The Winter session has three more weeks. At this time, the teams of Weasner /Scappaticci and Traviolia/Scott are battling it out for the #1 spot, with only 11 points separating them. Anything can happen! The winners will be announced on December 16. Women's Match Play is a member only league sponsored by the Monarch Women's Golf Association. The cost is currently \$20 per session for prize money.

Please contact Carolyn Skorich at duffycms@aol.com for sign up details and information on the league.

RINGER TOURNAMENT

The Ringer Tournament was held on October October 30 and November 6. The overall winner was Linda Hodgson, with a net 65. Way to go, Linda!

Flight 1

1 st Place	69*	Esther Patterson \$22
2 nd Place	69*	Wilma Greenhowe \$19
3 rd Place	69*	Diane Dixon \$16
4 th Place	70	Debby Beck \$13
5 th Place	71	Lisa Ritchey \$9

Flight 2

1 st Place	65*	Linda Hodgson \$25
2 nd Place	65*	Christa Bowen \$19
3 rd Place	66*	Cindy Hendricks - \$16
4 th Place	66*	Linda Carey \$13
5 th Place	67	Joan Beasley \$9

Flight 3

1 st Place	66	Barbara Kowalski \$22
2 nd Place	69*	Nancy Beighley \$19
3 rd Place	69*	Peg Johnson \$16
4 th Place	71*	Judy Taylor \$13
5 th Place	71*	Sandy Cookson \$9

“*” indicates Score Card Playoff



Ringer Flight Winners L to R: Linda Hodgson (overall champ and 1st place in Flight 2; Barb Kowalski, 1st Place in Flight 3; Esther Patterson, 1st Place in Flight 1.

Only one Regular Thursday Game was played in November

11/13 – Individual S & T Holes

Flight 1

1st Place 37 Karen Koxlowski
2nd Place (Tie) 39 Debby Beck, Esther
Patterson, Cindy Hendricks

Flight 2

1st Place 37 Francie Traviolia
2nd Place (Tie) 41 Nancy Beighley, Molly
Ryan, Barb Colmer

The conclusion of the President's Cup will take place on December 4th. The winner will be announced at the MWGA Annual Awards Dinner on December 8.

CHALLENGE CUP:

Well, the ladies did not fare so well at Harbor Hills on December 1. In fact (in the words of Lisa Ritchey), "We were clobbered!".

Total Gross Points: Harbor Hills 48.5
Monarch 23.5

Total Net Points: Harbor Hills 41.5
Monarch 30.5

The team of Debby Beck and Linda Carey took the honors for highest net score; The teams of Lisa Ritchey and Carolyn Upchurch and Cindy Hendricks and Diane Adlet split honors for the highest gross scores.

There are two more matches in 2025: 11/8 at Mission Inn and 11/19 at the Monarch against Arlington Ridge. Let's bring home some wins!!!

Men's Titton Match Play League

We are at the midway point of the fall session and here are our leaders:

Nicklaus Division

1st Place John Buono and Vince Laverghetta
2nd Place Rick Mason and Ron Pagut
3rd Place Harold Beasley and Randy Beck

Palmer Division

1st Place Bob Price and Craig Moore
2nd Place Steve Ryan and Henry Maguire
3rd Place Keith Beile and Dave Kozlowski

Vince Laverghetta shot a 71 for the low round of the session and Keith Beile shot a 64 for the low net score. Tom Suzda is the leading money winner in the skins game followed by Jim Layne and Vince Laverghetta.

The Winter session will begin on Monday, January 5 with late morning tee times to avoid the cold weather. The session will conclude with our fun day and luncheon on March 2nd. Sign up in the Pro Shop.

Men's Match Play is a member only league sponsored by the Monarch Men's Golf Association. The cost is currently \$40 per session, which includes \$20 for prize money and \$20 for the luncheon and raffle prizes.

Please contact Vince Laverghetta at vincelaverghetta@gmail.com for sign up details and information on the league.

MMGA-Craig Moore

The MMGA welcomes all male members of the Monarch Golf Club. We are approximately 100 members strong. Check us out for great golf times! Jumping into the autumn weather and time change, we welcome milder temps on the course.

Wednesday 11/5, Scramble

1st Place: 7 under par, \$10 each:
Keith Patterson, Hank Best, Mike Allen, Selden Skelly
2nd Place: 6 under par, \$6 each:
Bill Ortbals, Keith Beile, Tim Kohler, Tony Hicks
3rd Place: 5 under par, \$5 each
Dean Woodle, Dick Hellem, John Wassenaar, John Padula

Closest to the Pin: \$14.00 each

#4 Selden Skelly	8' 7"
#8 Terry Pollard	6'6"
#11 Jim Layne	12' 9"
#13 Randy Beck	9' 9"

50/50 Winners: \$35 each
Randy Beck, Mike Allen

Wednesday 11/12, Annual Fall Scramble

This week was our Annual “Fall Scramble” which included our Organizational Meeting and lunch. This is always a big turnout. Lunch was great!

1st Place: 9 under par \$25 each:
Dave Buckley, Terry Pollard, Mike Kowalski & Frank Pettinga

2nd Place*: 9 under par \$20 each
Rick Mason, John Wassenaar, Ron Pagut, Rich Page

3rd Place: 8 under par, \$15 each
Dean Woodle, Steve Ryan, Tim Carey, Selden Skelly

Closest to the Pin \$25.00 each

#4 Chris Crawford	4' 5"
#8 Tim Kohler	9' 5"
#11 Craig Moore	6' 1"
#13 Harold Beasley	11' 2"

50/50 Winners: Don Hubmer \$55
Bob Porch \$50

Wednesday, 11/18, Beat the Pro

The following 8 players placed with net scores:

1st Place:	72	Don Tubbs
2nd Place:	72	Jim Layne
3rd Place:	73	Tim Carey
4th Place:	74	Dick Hellem
5th Place:	74	Keith Beile
6th Place:	76	John Wassenaar
7th Place:	76	Lee Fjeld
8th Place:	76	Dave Buckley

Closest to the Pin \$14.00 each

#4 Tim Kohler	18" 8"
#8 Keith Beile	15" 9"
#11 Tom Cvikota	3' 6"
#13 Jim Layne	3' 8"

50/50 Winners: Tim Carey \$40
John Padula \$35

Wednesday, 11/26 2 Best Net

1st Place 14 under par \$10 each
Lowell Ranvek, Dan DeMartinis, Tim Carey, Jim Duane

2nd Place*: 14 under par \$6 each:
Keith Beile, John Wassenaar, Al Whittlef, Dave Maki

3rd Place: 12 under par \$4 each
Brian Heaslip, Dick Hellem, David Adlet, Selden Skelly

Closest to the Pin \$14.00 each

#4 Craig Simpson	5' 8"
#8 Mike Allen	2' 10"
#11 Al Whittlef	11'1"
#13 Keith Beile	15' 9"

50/50 Winners: Al Whittlef - \$35
Dan DeMartinis \$30

“*” indicates Score Card Playoff

Maintenance – Craig Shelton

Craig thanked the Board for adding one day Course Closure to accomplish tasks for fairway prep prior to overseeding. The staff was able to mow all fairways which would have been impossible while open. In addition, they were able to finish cleanup of thatch and debris on fairways that was created by a recent storm. They also utilized the time to complete projects that cannot be accomplished when the course is open, as follows:

- Edged fairway yardage markers.
- Edged irrigation.
- Painted edge of fairways to mark for seed applicator and for protection from cart traffic while driving on rough only.
- Worked on edging green side bunkers.
- Spiked all greens.
- Top-dressed all greens.
- Continued plugging out bird and cricket damage on greens along with weed patches and replaced scalped plugs. Will be ongoing all winter.
- Put up stakes and rope at beginning of fairways.

Recent Activity:

- Spot-sprayed second application of herbicide on goose grass located on edge of collars and green where first application didn't kill completely.
- Sprayed greens with green's program and fungicide.
- Sprayed turf by flagpole with herbicide for weeds.
- Trimmed hedges at Clubhouse.
- Covered roots with soil and smoothed out walk ups at 14 tee, 4 green, and 8 green.
- Filled in washout on slope right side of 14 fairway in rough.
- Touched up skips in approaches with seed.

New Members



David Buckley Seasonal General 11/1

David moved to Royal Highlands from Raymond New Hampshire. He worked as a Granite Templator (and he is from the Granite State!!!) He enjoys building and sports. Welcome, David!!



Jim Stanley – Seasonal General – 11/15

Jim moved to Royal Highlands from Michigan via Jacksonville. He has three children and seven grandchildren. He enjoys classic cars and playing golf. Glad to have you, Jim!!

Playing Card Bingo



King Wayne Sargent and Queen Joan LeCuyer

Card Bingo took place on Monday, November 10, featuring a delicious Italian Buffet. There were 15 tables, and everyone had a fabulous time. Looking forward to the Taco Buffet on Monday, January 12, 2026. *REMEMBER, NO GAME IN DECEMBER!*

The Crown and Shield Restaurant, along with the Monarch Golf Course, are favorite locations for parties for RH Clubs and outsiders. The Restaurant recently received a very complimentary note worth sharing.

To: dawnc@monarchgolfclub.com
Cc: icolon@monarchgolfclub.com
Subject: Sincere Thanks from the South Lake Men's Golf League

Dawn,

Many thanks to you and your entire staff for the superb luncheon today for the South Lake Men's Golf League.

We are most appreciative of your attentive and friendly service, the excellent food overseen by Toby, and the professionalism and cheerfulness of the wait staff.

We greatly enjoyed the luncheon!

We wish you, Toby, and each and every staff member a wonderful holiday season and a healthy, happy, and prosperous new year.

Rick Houck

Golf Tips

Note from Editor:

I wish I had seen these tips before I posted 13 strokes on Hole 1 in a recent tournament! It took me five tries to get out of the bunker. Hopefully, some might find this Guide to Better Bunker Play helpful. !

- **Open the clubface:** Before you grip the club, rotate the face slightly open. This adds loft and exposes the bounce of the wedge, helping it glide through the sand instead of digging.
- **Grip normally:** After opening the face, take your normal grip. If you grip first and then open, you have a higher likelihood of manipulating the face at impact.
- **Wide stance:** Place your feet shoulder-width apart or slightly wider for stability. Don't be afraid to dig in a bit to improve your balance.
- **Ball position:** Play the ball slightly forward of center in your stance. This encourages a shallower strike into the sand.
- **Weight forward:** Keep about 60% of your weight on your lead foot and hold it there throughout the swing.
- **Sand first, then ball:** Aim to hit the sand about 1-2 inches behind the ball.
- **Accelerate through impact:** Many golfers decelerate in fear of blasting the ball over the green, leaving the ball in the bunker. Keep the club moving all the way through.
- **Use a full, relaxed swing:** Don't jab at the ball. Take a smooth, committed swing as if you're tossing sand onto the green.
- **Follow through:** Let the club exit high, finishing the swing fully.

A simple thought to keep in mind is to imagine throwing a handful of sand onto the green. The ball will ride out with it.

The Crown & Shield

BAR & RESTAURANT



Hours of Operation

Sunday

7:30am to 5pm Brunch Menu Only*
Pizza & Flatbreads Available
for Dine in Or Take-Out
1pm to 5pm
Bar 11am to 6pm

Monday

11am to 5pm*
Pizza & Flatbreads Available
for Dine in Or Take-Out
1pm to 5pm
Bar 11am to 6pm

Tuesday - Saturday

11am to 7pm*
Pizza & Flatbreads Available
for Dine in Or Take-Out
1pm to 7pm
Bar 11am to 7pm

*Excluding Special & Private Events

**Pizzas Must be ordered 30 minutes Prior to Closing

DECEMBER 2025:

Sundays

- 12/7 Sunday Brunch 7:30am to 5pm
- 12/14 Sunday Brunch 7:30am to 5pm
- 12/21 Sunday Brunch 7:30 am to 5pm
- 12/28 Sunday Brunch 7:30am to 5pm

Mondays

- 12/1 Bar/Restaurant open 11am to 5pm
- 12/8 Bar/Restaurant open 11am to 3pm
- 12/15 Bar/Restaurant open 11am to 5pm
- 12/22 Bar/ Restaurant open 11am to 5pm
- 12/29 Bar/Restaurant open 11am to 5pm

Tuesdays

- 12/2 Restaurant closes 3pm
- 12/9 Liver & Onions \$17.99**
- 12/16 Meatloaf \$16.99**
- 12/23 Chicken Francese \$17.99
- 12/30 Full Menu Available

Wednesdays

- 12/3 Restaurant Closing at 5pm
- 12/10 Full Menu Available
- 12/17 Burger Night Buy One Get One Half Off Reservations Recommended
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Buffet 12pm Reservations Required
- 12/31 New Years Eve Buffet Reservations Required

*** These Specials include your choice of Side Salad or a cup of soup.*

Thursdays

- 12/4 Pork Chops \$22.99**
- 12/11 Grilled Ribeye
- 12/18 Grilled Mahi Mahi \$22.99**
- 12/25 Restaurant Closed Happy Holidays

Fridays

- 12/5 Friday Fish Fry \$19.99
- 12/12 Friday Fish Fry \$19.99
- 12/19 Friday Fish Fry \$19.99
- 12/26 Friday Fish Fry \$19.99
- Reservations Highly Recommended on above dates

Saturdays

- 12/6 Restaurant closed til 3pm
- 12/13 Restaurant closes at 3pm
- Private Function "Birthday Bash"
- 12/20 Full Menu Available 11am to 7pm
- 12/27 Full Menu Available 11am to 7pm

December Events

- 11/2 Private Holiday Function
- 12/3 Private Dinner Function
- 12/4 Private Lunch Function
- 12/6 Private Lunch Function
- 12/8 Private Dinner Function oo
- 12/14 Private Holiday Function
- 12/15 Annual Meeting
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Buffet 12pm
- 12/31 New Years Eve Buffet



The Crown & Shield Restaurant
**CHRISTMAS
EVE BUFFET**

Broccoli Salad, Traditional House Salad

Smoked Salmon & Tomato Mozzarella Trays

Beef Tips, Coconut Chicken, Traditional Turkey

Blackened Mahi Mahi, Carved Ham

Wild Rice, Vegetable Medley, Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Omelet Station & Assorted Desserts

DEC 24th ♦ **at 12 PM**

\$35.00 per person

7% Sales Tax & 20% Gratuity will be included at time of purchase

Reservations are Required. Take out will be available.

Reservations: 352-314-9000 ext 4

email: dawnc@monarchgolfclub.com

**Limited Seating
Available**