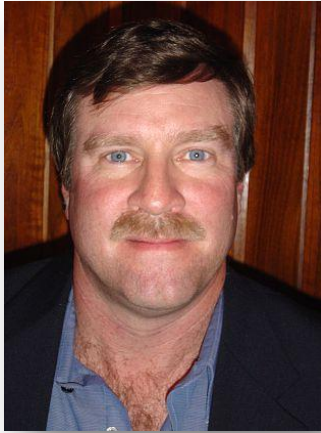


A Visit With Stuart Powell



This is the third year that Stuart Powell has served in the dual role of PCCC Board President/Acting General Manager. We have been fortunate to have someone with Stuart's business experience and energy level leading the way at the Club for the last couple of years. We sat down with Stuart recently and he addressed several topics.

Q. Many private country clubs throughout the United States, including ours, are going through some tough times. With the current economic downturn in our country and the recently announced 750 job transfers away from Ponca City by ConocoPhillips, it appears that our club might be facing even more obstacles in the days ahead. We are down to 190 Resident members now. 12 years ago we had 550 Resident members and a waiting list. What is the

Board's vision on how we can continue to operate as a full service, private club when the economy is in a severe downturn and our membership numbers are at an all-time record low??

A. The Board's positive vision is that we will continue to operate the club as a full service private club. We are working through the issues we have with declining membership and assume that our membership numbers will continue to decrease this year.

Q. There are all kinds of rumors floating around town relating to what might happen at the Club in the next few months. Making PCCC a semi-private club and opening up the restaurant to everyone in town are among the most common rumors at this time. Can you talk about what the Board has really been discussing?

A. There will always be rumors. I do not believe that you can run a business based on rumors. What you have to do is to run the business on the facts. We have discussed the rumors and looked at how they may affect the club, but our path forward will be based on what actually happens. We believe that cutting services is not the answer. If you look at other clubs that have started down that path, they typically end up bankrupt. So, cutting services will be our last resort.

Q. Are the budgets for each department lower in 2009 than they were in 2008?

A. No, the budget for the golf course is basically flat along with the tennis facilities. We have cut the budget for the clubhouse.

Q. How long are we going to continue to operate without a full-time General Manager?

A. I do not know the answer to this question. I do not see how we can afford a GM at this time. If you look at the club's management when we decided not to replace the GM, we had the same basic numbers of managers as we did when the club had 550 resident members. So we needed to cut management somewhere. Does that mean that we have been successful by not having a GM? That I am not sure about. There are things that

don't get accomplished because we do not have that day-to-day person looking over the club. However, adding \$100,000 to the budget for a GM's salary would be virtually impossible. The board has not discussed this much, but I believe that we probably need a part-time GM if we can find one.

Q. Are there any membership promotions planned for this year??

A. The board has not talked about any promotions yet. We normally start planning them in March.

Q. The golf course is in great shape, even though Doyle Brookshire and his staff have been operating under the same budgetary amount for the past few years. How do they do such a great job on a limited amount of money?

A. Doyle does a fantastic job on the course and I think we are very lucky to have him and his hard working staff. The course is our largest asset and we need to maintain it properly. We can make Doyle's job much easier by always following the golf course rules, including keeping our golf carts on the paths as much as possible and using the 90 degree rule. We also need to do a better job of fixing our divots in the fairways and on the greens.

Q. The quality of the food at PCCC has improved dramatically since Chef Chris came on-board. Are there new menus coming out this spring?

A. The Chef is doing a great job in controlling our costs and keeping our food quality at the highest level. Our goal is to change the menu quarterly. That is difficult to do with the limited staff in the kitchen, so I will leave it up to Chef Chris to determine when he wants to change the menu.

Q. Do you have any other thoughts that you would like to share with our members?

A. I think everyone is aware of the financial issues that the club has right now. The easiest way to fix those is by increasing our membership, and the easiest way to increase membership is for all of us to promote the club. So, bring your friends out for a nice dinner or a round of golf. Show them that PCCC has quality entertainment, is a great value and is the premier place in Ponca City to spend your spare time.

