



# THE CORNER INFORMER

*The Newsletter of The Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association*

Volume 23 Issue 2 June 2017

## OUR PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Wow, this year is moving fast. The Madness of March flew by in a blur (congrats UNC), April showers didn't quite happen (maybe a sprinkle or two), and Michigan (per usual) can't quite make up her mind on weather or not to transition to Spring. All of the primary school kids are getting restless (fidget toys are all on backorder), and soon the chaos of summer begins (bring it on!). AND, to top it all off, the Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association is cruising along. Here's what's happening:

Our 2016/2017 continuing education series ended on a golden note with Dr. Joe Bartges speaking on diseases of the urinary tract. Our 2017/2018 series is complete, with lectures on ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, gerontology, feline medicine, and dermatology. All our speakers are world-class, the same that you would enjoy at any of the national conferences. If you haven't joined us in the past, please consider signing up for a meeting or two to see what we bring to the table. This is about to become even more important with the state of Michigan's continuing education requirements being finalized this year. Remember that for each SEMVMA member veterinarian, one technician or other staff member may attend a technician continuing education program for FREE (yep, you read that right, NO CHARGE). Stay tuned to our newsletter and continuing education fliers for more details and registration information.

Summer brings outdoor activities, and one of our premiere social outings is the SEMVMA golf outing. Our 24th annual offering, this event will happen on

August 16th, 2017 at Tanglewood Golf Course in South Lyon, MI. This is always an enjoyable day of golf and comradery, giving us an opportunity to socialize and raise some money for an excellent cause.

If you are looking for a summer continuing education offering, this year's MVMA Great Lakes Veterinary Conference will be held at Crystal Mountain Resort in Thompsonville, MI. Featuring some of the finest accommodations northern Michigan has to offer, this family friendly resort features 36

holes of championship golf, the award-winning Crystal Spa, the Michigan Legacy Art Park, and (of course) top notch continuing education. See the MVMA website (<http://www.michvma.org>) for more information.

And, a little teaser, in case you happened to forget, the Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association turned 100 years old this year. We are planning a centennial celebration for late summer/early fall, stay tuned: you do not want to miss this!

Have a great spring and summer everyone, get outside and have some fun.

– Tim



*Tim Duncan*

**Southeastern Michigan  
Veterinary Medical  
Association**

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2017/2018  
SEMVMA CONTINUING EDUCATION

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**Veterinary Program**

10/18/2017—Dr. Mary B. Glaze /Ophthalmology  
Sponsor: I-Med Pharma

11/15/2017—Dr. Michael P Kowaleski/Orthopedic Surgery  
Sponsor: Aratana/Elizabeth DuSang

12/13/2017—Dr. Mary Gardner/Gerontology

02/28/2017—Dr. Margie Scherk/Feline Medicine

03/28/2018—Dr. Doug DeBoer/Dermatology  
Sponsor: Heska/Cuattro

**Technician Program**

10/18/2017—Sheena Monnin/Bullying in the workplace

11/15/2017—Ann Wortinger/CBC Evaluation & IV – IO Catheters

12/13/2017—Dr. Mary Gardner will speak to the Techs

02/28/2018—Dr. Margie Scherk/Feline Medicine

03/28/2018—Heidi Reuss-Lamky/Anesthesia Mistakes

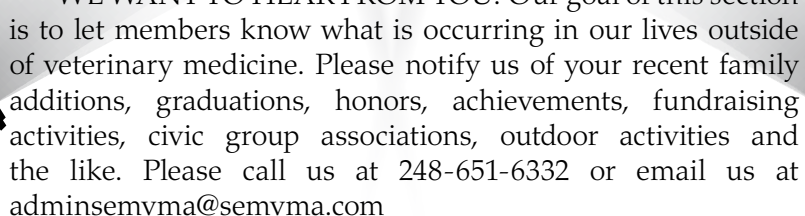
## MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

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**Dr. Marj Field**, (Furever Friends Veterinary Services) would like to announce that her daughter **Dr. Leslie Hueschen** and her husband **Kurt** welcomed **Vera Ann Hueschen** April 20, 2017 in Kansas City. *Congrats on your first granddaughter Dr. Field!*

**Dr. Melissa Theyyunni**, of **Animal Emergency Center**, and her husband **Nikhil** welcomed **Alex Sameer** on April 13th. He was 6# 11oz and 19.5 inches. He is a great little guy and their first baby. Mom and baby are doing well. *Best Wishes!*

**Dr. Michelle Meyer**, from **Serenity Animal Hospital**, and her husband **Steve** welcomed their third baby boy, **Linden Robert**, to their family on March 6, 2017. Linden was 9 lbs 5 oz and 22 inches long. *Congratulations!*



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! Our goal of this section is to let members know what is occurring in our lives outside of veterinary medicine. Please notify us of your recent family additions, graduations, honors, achievements, fundraising activities, civic group associations, outdoor activities and the like. Please call us at 248-651-6332 or email us at [adminsevmva@sevmva.com](mailto:adminsevmva@sevmva.com)

### **MCVA Fall meetings (open to all veterinarians):**

**Monday, October 23, 2017**

**Dr. Matthew Beal**

MSU Interventional Radiology & Emergency/Critical Care Medicine

Topic: Radiology Rounds

*Additionally, Dr. Chris Gray will provide an update on MSU VTH.*

Location: **Room 206 of the Macomb Intermediate School District building  
MISD Building is located at 44001 Garfield Road, Clinton Twp, MI 48038**

*Dinner at 6:30pm sponsored by MSU VTH*

*Guest speakers at 7:00pm with general membership meeting to follow*

**Please RSVP BY 10/19/17 for the radiology meeting to Kim at 248-564-0309**

Also, please mark your calendar for our November MCVA meeting!

**Wednesday, November 8, 2017**

**Dr. Tari Kern**

Pawsitive Steps Rehabilitation & Therapy for Pets

Topic: Rehabilitation & Integrative Medicine

Location: **Pawsitive Steps Rehabilitation & Therapy for Pets  
1894 Star Batt Drive, Rochester Hills, MI 48309**

*Dinner at 6:30pm & Guest speaker at 7:00pm with general membership meeting to follow*

**Please RSVP BY 11/3/17 for the rehabilitation meeting to Kim at 248-564-0309**



## SAVE THESE DATES! UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

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Attention golfers...Mark your calendars for the 24th annual SEMVMA Golf outing! The outing will take place on August 16th at Tanglewood Golf Club in South Lyon. The format will be a four-person scramble. All proceeds from the event will benefit Leader Dogs for Blind.



People Pets & Vets will be on 11/04/17



Annual Holiday Party (AKA Harold's party) will be on 11/08/17



OUR NEW WEBSITE  
LAUNCHES TODAY!

[Visit Site >](#)

SEMVMA.VET

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Your Southeastern Michigan Veterinary Medical Association is proud to unveil our new website! See what we have planned including upcoming social events and continuing education opportunities. Stay tuned for information on our 100 Years celebration. You can also find a list of our academy members and your executive board along with job listings, relief veterinarians, and more. Do you have something to share? Contacting us is easy through the website. Whether you are in search of information or you have some time, feel free to browse the new website at [www.semvma.vet](http://www.semvma.vet).

# THANK YOU DR. WARD

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## **Dr. Tari Kern, SEMVMA Practice Management Committee Chairperson**

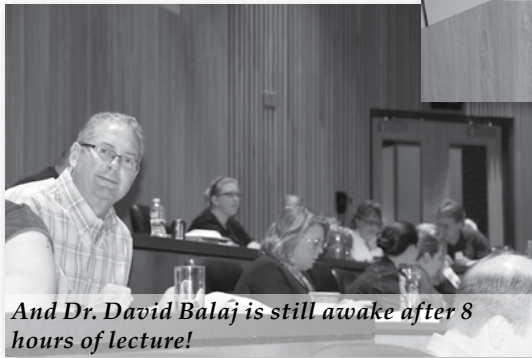
SEMVMA was honored to host Dr. Ernie Ward as the speaker for our 2017 Practice Management Seminar held on Wednesday, April 25th. Dr. Ward has spoken at every major North American veterinary conference and internationally as well, and he did not disappoint during his visit to southeastern Michigan. He shared plenty of insight from his broad experiences in private practice, international networking and being a champion of veterinary medicine during the seminar. Veterinarians and practice managers alike found some gems throughout the day, which could quickly be applied in their own practices right away.

Dr. Ward opened with tips on adding new services to your practice and setting yourself up for success during the process. He focused on the veterinary team and building strength within that team at all levels, particularly at the top. Humor and practical

applications were sprinkled throughout the topics, which really helped to offset the fact that all attendees were indoors engaged in lectures on a particularly glorious April day in southeast Michigan.

Communication was a consistent theme throughout the program and how to maximize effectiveness as a veterinary team as a whole. Insights into interpersonal communication with supporting research and entertaining examples helped to provide useful strategies to improve compliance in practice and bridge gaps in understanding that we may not recognize during our daily interactions with clients and our teams. Dr. Ward stressed that mastering successful communication skills ultimately helps our patients, improves our client relationships, promotes a positive working atmosphere and keeps our chosen career rewarding over the long haul. Hopefully, many of you reading this today have been able to introduce some of Dr. Ward's ideas into your practice.

*Dr. Ernie Ward and Dr. Jeff Dizik discussing business.*



*And Dr. David Balaj is still awake after 8 hours of lecture!*



*Rick Schulkey with Drs. Ron Isaacson and Dave Whitten*



*Jim Thompson, practice manager of OVRS and Evie Fredenburg, manager at Greenfield Animal Hospital.*



*Some of the sponsors of the business management seminar from left to right: Brett and Joe from Faithful Companion, Dan and Marissa from Idexx*



# DESCEMETOCELE: WHOA THAT'S DEEP!

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## **Dr. Barbra Easton, DVM, Veterinary Vision of Rochester**

The canine and feline cornea is composed of three layers: the epithelium, stroma and endothelium. Between the layers is an acellular basement membranes. The membrane separating the stroma and endothelium is referred to as Descemet's membrane. An ulcer that progresses to reach this inner most membrane is referred to as a descemetocele. This membrane is only 3-12 um thick, and once breached, exposes the inner globe to infection (endophthalmitis) and potential blindness.

## **PRESENTATION:**

While any corneal ulcer can progress to this state, brachycephalic breeds and pets with Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca are the most prone. Pets will typically present with the owner reporting squinting, cloudy eye or a "black dot" on the surface.

## **DIAGNOSIS:**

When a descemetocele is suspected, great care should be taken to handle the eye gently during the diagnostic testing to prevent rupture. Fluorescein stain may be applied to the eye, and then gently rinsed away. Stain will not adhere to the membrane, giving the ulcer an appearance of a green ring with a grey or black "bullseye" in the center. Deep stromal ulcers will appear green across the bottom of the deficit. It is helpful to use a blue/purple light and magnification to determine this. If the eye has previously ruptured, you may note fibrin or iridial tissue (iris staphyloma) reaching up to the endothelium of the cornea.

Once a diagnosis has been confirmed, it is important to determine if the eye is still visual. Vision can be assessed by monitoring the direct and indirect PLR, menace and dazzle reflexes.

Treatment: Surgical intervention is necessary to prevent or repair a ruptured cornea. In pets that still retain vision, a conjunctival graft is often recommended. In this procedure, a pedicle graft is harvested from the superior/lateral bulbar conjunctival. It is sutured over the deficit, in an effort to bring a blood supply to the non-vascular cornea. This tissue becomes a "patch" to seal the surface of the eye. Special attention is paid to keeping the graft as small as possible to leave the visual axis as open as we can. The patient is then treated for 10-14 days with topical antibiotics and hypertonic ointments. Prognosis for these patients is good. If the patient does not appear

to have vision from the affected globe, an enucleation is recommended.

## **COMMON EYELID MARGIN ABNORMALITIES**

Upper eyelid agenesis (or coloboma) is a congenital anomaly that is occasionally seen in felines and rarely seen in canine patients. In the affected area the skin makes a direct transition to conjunctiva and the eyelid margin is absent. This results in lagophthalmos as well as corneal irritation from misdirected hairs. These patients are typically missing the lateral portion of lid margin and can vary from almost un-noticeable defect to absence of the superior lid margin. Mild cases can be treated with cryosurgery alone to destroy the offending hair follicles. Severe cases require reconstructive surgery which consists of creating a new eyelid margin via skin graft. The majority of these cases will require cryosurgery a few weeks after the initial surgery to destroy any hair follicles that are growing inward toward the cornea. Home care includes owner compliance with topical ophthalmic ointments to protect the corneas.

Dermoids (choristoma) of the eyelids is a congenital abnormality that is seen in both feline and canine patients. Dermoids consist of normal tissue in an abnormal location including skin, cartilage and hair. Dermoids of the eyelids can also involve the conjunctiva and cornea. Most clients will notice the abnormality when patients are only weeks to months old. They are frequently seen on the lateral bulbar conjunctiva and can include the lateral canthus and/or cornea (see pic below). The hair from these dermoids will often cause corneal irritation and ulceration. Local excision is curative and may require a keratectomy if the lesion extends onto the cornea.

Adenomas are the most common canine eyelid tumors. These benign tumors typically arise from the meibomian gland and typically have irregular surfaces. If not completely resected they will grow back. These tumors can cause corneal irritation depending on their size and position. If small, less than 5mm in diameter, our office will perform a CO2 laser growth ablation under local anesthesia. Larger tumors or tumors that involve more of the lid, a wedge surgical resection is the preferred method of treatment. If the tumor involves greater than 1/3 of the lid margin, reconstructive surgery may be required.

Entropion is a conformation defect in which the rolling in of the eyelid margin allows the facial hair to advance into the palpebral fissure and rub on the cornea. Restraint, pain or excitement may alter normal eyelid

carriage. It is best to perform the examination with little or no restraint and with the pet's head in a normal position. It is important to visualize the lid margin, which should be contiguous with the globe. Signs of entropion include tear staining, blepharitis and or alopecia around the lid margins. At the areas of entropion, trichiasis can be visualized against the cornea. Often times entropion can be corrected with a modified Hotz-Celsus procedure. It is important to determine the amount of correction needed prior to administering anesthesia. In very young patients, less than 16 weeks of age, temporary tacking

suture(s) can be used to minimize corneal irritation until surgery can be performed.

Complicated entropion can be seen in several breeds, especially heavy brow breeds such as the Chow Chow and Shar Pei. These breeds often exhibit severe upper and lower lid entropion. Laxity of the lateral canthal ligament as well as heavy brow wrinkling is sometimes seen and can lead to lid instability and positional entropion. These patients may require a brow resection in addition to the entropion correction. They may also require additional corrective surgery later in life.

## DRUG SURVEY

Do you recall the last time a client discussed their concerns about their dog's behavior with you? Did they come to you for an office visit to assess the dog's behavior or did they mention it briefly during a routine visit? Maybe the dog was aggressive to other dogs, unable to ride in the car without severe anxiety, or very aggressive to its owners; perhaps it panics during storms, is afraid of children or bit a repairman. Regardless of the particular mental disorder that the dog may have had, the client and their dog both needed a solution to the problem. Some problems may be readily resolved with client education and basic dog training. Other problems are more complicated. Some of the most common causes of owner relinquishment of dogs to shelters are behavior-related; behavior modification for dogs is possible, but it is not an easy road. Behavior-modifying drugs can make this process much easier and lead to happier, healthier lives for all those involved.

When prescribing medication to a patient with a behavior-related problem, it can be difficult to know where to start, so many general practitioners are not comfortable treating behavior-related problems or prescribing medications. However, due to the value put on the human-animal bond, veterinarians will increasingly be called upon to assist owners in addressing mental health disorders in their pets. As this is a relatively new field, clinical research regarding prescribing habits for these medications is lacking. While only a few drugs have been FDA-approved to treat canine behavioral problems, many other drugs are available as off-label solutions for problems such as separation anxiety, aggression, compulsive disorders, and fears.

The current survey study aims to describe the psychopharmacological prescribing habits of veterinarians in small animal medicine in order to develop a baseline database, an objective that you can help with. In this way, knowledge that practitioners already have can be shared regarding these medications. Maybe some practitioners avoid using a certain medication due to side effects, while others use the same medication regularly and have never observed this side-effect. For most practitioners, you will be able to complete the survey in just about 30 minutes.

For veterinarians who are commonly prescribing a wide range of medications for behavior problems, this survey will take about an hour to complete. This method can also help to identify gaps in knowledge, which can then be filled with targeted empirical studies, giving researchers a specific direction, and helping many general practitioners to better prescribe behavior-modifying medications for their patients.

You can contribute to research about behavior-modifying drugs and help to improve dogs' lives. Although the following survey is intensive and detailed, we appreciate your time to take it. Your participation can help not only dogs with behavioral problems and their owners, but also other veterinarians. If you are a general practitioner in the United States who prescribes behavior-modifying medication to dogs, please follow the link below to take a survey regarding your prescription of behavior-modifying drugs. If you are a general practitioner in the US who does not prescribe these drugs to dogs, please complete the survey and share the reasons that you do not prescribe them. If you are a boarded veterinary behaviorist and utilize these medications often, please follow the link below to take a survey regarding your prescription of behavior-modifying drugs. Your help and time are greatly appreciated!

The research team thanks you in advance for your participation!

\* Phoebe Huberty, Veterinary student at Michigan State University

\* Theresa DePorter DVM, MRCVS, DECAWBM, DACVB  
Oakland Veterinary Referral Services

\* Gagandeep Kaur DVM, PhD College of Veterinary Medicine, Western University of Health Sciences

\* David L. Bledsoe DVM Qualitas BioSciences

This research is made possible by a grant from the  
MICHIGAN ANIMAL HEALTH FOUNDATION (MAHF)  
Please share. Thank you.

Please take the survey titled "Prescribing Habits for Behavior Modifying Drugs". Your feedback is important!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/behaviormedsfordogs>

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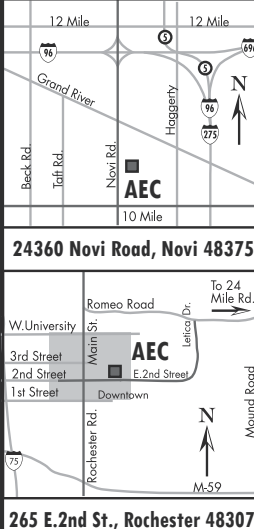
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## CLINICS FOR SALE

Are you ready to buy or sell a veterinary practice? Valuations, consultations. Buying or selling. I can help. Call Dr. Fred Zydeck at:248-891-3934 or e-mail: [fzydeck@aol.com](mailto:fzydeck@aol.com)

## NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT POLICY

In order to preserve the educational and informative purpose of the SEMVMA newsletter, the SEMVMA council adopts the following policy regarding advertising. Ads should be submitted to Barb at [adminsevmma@sevmma.com](mailto:adminsevmma@sevmma.com)

Practices or businesses with a common owner shall be treated as one business or practice for the purpose of this policy (referred to as "Common Owner Business or Practice"). A common owner is a person or entity which owns 5% or more of an entity or practice. Shareholders or sole proprietors of an entity or practice shall be considered an owner along with the entity that holds an interest in the business or practice.

Corporate ¼ page ads are limited to one business, owner or corporation for each issue of the SEMVMA newsletter. This is in the interest of having the newsletter inform the association and not overwhelm them with ads. The SEMVMA council may modify or waive the application of this policy on a case by case basis at the discretion of the council.

Ads will run only once unless a request is submitted to the Administrative Secretary to run longer. Classified ads are \$15 for 60 words or less and \$25 for 61–100 words. Corporate ¼ page ads are \$135 per issue or \$500 for four issues. Payment is due at the time of the initial ad placement.

SEMVMA Members interested in providing Relief Veterinary Services can advertise in the newsletter at no charge. The classified ads must follow the same guidelines regarding number of words and deadline restrictions as all other classified ads. If you are a SEMVMA member interested in placing a classified ad, please contact Barb at 888-SEMVMA-5 or [www.adminsevmma@sevmma.com](mailto:www.adminsevmma@sevmma.com).

Newsletters are published quarterly: on March 15th, June 15th, December 15th and December 15th. All ads should be submitted to the SEMVMA office by the 15th of the month preceding publication.





The Southeastern Michigan  
Veterinary Medical Association  
804 Spartan Drive  
Rochester Hills, Michigan 48309



TO:

**24/7 Case Consultations**  
248-960-7200

**Animal Rehab & Fitness Center**  
The well-being & health of your pet is our primary concern. We help. We heal. We rehabilitate.  
1120 Welch Road  
Commerce, Michigan  
animalneurology.com

**Animal Neurology & MRI Center**  
Three board-certified neurologists caring for your pets 24/7.  
**Michael Wolf, DVM**  
Diplomate ACVIM (Neurology), CCRT  
**Adam Moeser, DVM**  
Diplomate ACVIM (Neurology)  
**Trevor Moore, DVM**  
Diplomate ACVIM (Neurology)

**Animal ER Center**  
We are here when you need us most.  
We are three centers, one place combining leading-edge diagnostics, experience in treatment and compassionate care.

**Ready to BUY or SELL a veterinary practice?**  
*I can help!*

**CONSULTATIONS.  
PRACTICE VALUATIONS.  
REASONABLE FEE.**

- ▶ Former practitioner and owner of five SE Michigan practices, including Westborn Animal Hospital in Dearborn
- ▶ MSU Class of 1966
- ▶ Over 14 years of selling *only* veterinary practices

**Call me today!**

**Dr. Fred Zydeck**  
BROKER • LICENSED IN MICHIGAN

**(248) 891-3934 | fzydeck@aol.com | www.vpsg.com**



## 24th S.E.M.V.M.A. GOLF OUTING

**Who:** Veterinarians, Hospital staff, Family members, Friends of S.E.M.V.M.A., or anyone who enjoys a fun day in the sun with great people.

**When:** Wednesday, August 16, 2017 10:00 A.M. Shotgun Start

**Where:** Tanglewood Golf Club 53503 West Ten Mile Rd. South Lyon, MI 48178  
Phone Number: 248-486-3355

**Format:** Four-Person Scramble

**Cost:** \$100.00 per golfer includes 18 holes of golf with cart, box lunch, dinner banquet, hole-in-one contest, numerous prizes. (Raffle prize tickets will be sold at the course). SOFT SPIKES AND PROPER ATTIRE REQUIRED.

Proceeds from this year's event will benefit *Leader Dogs for the Blind*.

### **DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT: SATURDAY July 29th**

Please mail **completed** registration form (located below) with payment

Mail, fax, or e-mail registration even if pay by credit card to Barb

To: S.E.M.V.M.A.

**Make all checks payable to S.E.M.V.M.A.**

804 Spartan Drive

**(payment by Visa or MasterCard only may be made to**

Rochester Hills, MI. 48309

**Barb by phone at 248-651-6332)**

**\*Confirmation of registration will be e-mailed only to you no later than**

**Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**

Direct questions to Dr. Greg Lott,

Cell: 734-771-1518, Work: 734-283-1110 or e-mail: [hoopdoc99@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hoopdoc99@sbcglobal.net)

or Barb at S.E.M.V.M.A. phone: 248-651-6332 or fax: 248-651-6333

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP CODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Numbers:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please include your e-mail address:**

**Individuals:** My golfing ability is (please circle one): Beginner/Average/ Good

Individuals will be placed in a group as best can be arranged.

**Please circle:** Individual (\$100.00) Foursome (\$400.00) Sponsorship Only (\$250.00)

Sponsorship AND Foursome (\$650.00) Dinner Only (\$18.00) non-golfers

If you are registering a Foursome, threesome, or twosome, please list other golfer' names and their phone numbers below. Include yourself in the list:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

If you register a foursome you are responsible for informing all of your players of directions to the course, start time, etc. **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED** \_\_\_\_\_