



The Capon Weekly

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Saturday, August 15, 2009

CAPON SPRINGS, WV

Front Porch chatter...



Need a job? Get a Capon connection! When Jon Markel was here last year, Steve Van Metre told him his old college fraternity brothers had a band and were looking for a bass player. The only problem was location – the successful rock band “Carbon Leaf” is based in Virginia and Jon had been making music on the West Coast for over eight years. Still, Steve sent the email to get the ball rolling, and Jon got the call for an interview when he returned from his Capon trip. He had to wait three weeks after the tryout to receive a call back in early October with an invitation to join the group. Their first assignment was to write and record original music for the sound track of the upcoming movie “Curious George II.” Since last December, Jon has been touring the country with steady gigs in a variety of venues. Next Friday, Aug. 21, they will be the opening act at the Filene Center in Wolf Trap Park, Vienna, Va.

Marty & Sandi Healy of LaFayette, CA made their own Capon connection while supporting some West Virginia ministers three weeks ago. Since they were sporting Capon shirts, Rev. David Twedt asked them if they knew Jonathan Bellingham (who is a member of his church) and the link was made. Rev. Twedt and two other WV



Lutheran pastors weren't making a regular church call but rather a call to arms to fight world hunger. By pedaling a three-person bike (called a triplet) all around the country and stopping at each Lutheran Synod, they helped raise awareness and revenue to eliminate world hunger in our lifetime. Their custom-built bamboo vehicle was made especially for their cross country journey that will cover 13,000 miles over 100 days. They will complete their “Tour de Revs” odyssey on Aug. 20 in Minneapolis.

Many guests follow their Capon connections back decades from their first visit. A few can claim over 50 years since they first feasted on steak dinner on the hill or enjoyed a campfire sing-a-long. Among those “early birds” are Dick & Agnes Cantwell, Jim Larsen, Jim Van Metre, David, Emily & Mary Boochever, Marie Souder, Corky Sutter*, Jay & Paul Wight, Sandi Healy and Alex Thompson. Among the 40+ years club here this week: Evelyn and Steve Larsen, Judy Allen, John Boochever, Ken Cantwell, Lauren Van Metre, Carolyn Berenson, Daniel Webster, George & Kathy Vensko and JoAnn Pinkerton. Chace & Helen Davis made their 40th anniversary trip this week.

**Corky Sutter is this week's winner in longevity since his first trip to Capon was in the early 1940s. In 1943, he received permission from Lou Austin to play in his first Best Ball Golf Tourney at age 12.*

TAYLOR -MADE TRAVEL

A trip to Ukraine was not on anyone's agenda Tuesday night until the photo tour of the Bellinghams' recent visit was projected onto the big screen in the Mountain House room. Capon regular Bill Taylor, while serving as the US Ambassador to Ukraine, invited Jonathan, Betsy and Katie (plus Betsy's mother Phyllis Phillips) to Kiev last April. While there, they toured the grand cathedrals and historic sites, as well as visited spa resort towns of Odessa and Yalta. Although the Talyors were unable to spend their usual Capon time this week, they came up Wednesday for lunch to visit with all their Capon friends. (Bill's new assignment at the Peace Institute will put him in contact with another Capon regular, Lauren Van Metre who has worked there on and off for 10 years. Lauren's staff will use Bill's research in post-conflict strategies to train civilians in troubled foreign states.)



FALL FACTS:

Labor Day weekend,



September 4-7 still has some excellent room openings for 2- and 3-night reservations. If you can only join us for one night over a weekend, consider these **Saturdays**. Come **September 12th OR 19th** and enjoy the Spring tour, campfire sing-a-long & doggie roast and Sunday morning sticky buns. Looking for just a **Sunday** night? Come **October 11** and enjoy the annual Film Festival.

CAPON'S GOT TALENT



The Meeting House auditorium was filled with the sound of music Friday night. Patty Austin led the Capon chorus with two tunes before songbird cousins (Creutzer and Davis) each offered both vocal and body movement skills. Adam Cantwell and the three "A's" (Alison, Allison and Abigail) each had a snappy tune to share, thanks to Ken Cantwell on guitar. A larger contingent of Davis cousins returned to the stage for a skit about escaped popsicles. Then the Capon players modified their skit at the last minute to give it a more positive spin. The result – a fun family version of hide and seek. Next, piano players took over the evening when Maggie McCutcheon was joined by Aunt Birgit on the flute and Abby Van Metre tickling the ivories for two fun tunes. A trio of singing groups followed including Maggie McCutcheon, brother/sister act David/Maddie Socolar and the Capon choristers.

Then Sean Walters shared some inspired poetry with the lights turned down to set the mood. Andrew Recinos followed with an inspiring piano piece. The Corky Chorale returned (plus Andrew Recinos on piano) for a harmonized "Country Roads" rendition. For some bluegrass magic, Jo & Bro Pinkerton were joined by "cousins" Paul Fischer and Jon Markel for three musical pieces. The evening ended with a visual and audio treat produced by Patty Austin. Using photographs taken of this week's guests, she wove a montage of images of happy times enjoyed by one and all.



CELEBRATIONS



BIRTHDAYS

- 8/10 Sally Recinos
- 8/12 Katherine Joy – 21!
- 8/13 Suzanne Branner
- 8/14 Aubrey Fisher
- 8/15 Mort Silverman
- 8/16 Julia Brinker

ANNIVERSARIES

- 8/10 Serge & Martha Socolar
- 8/15 Jim Farley & Judith O'Hara

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Bingo Banter



Kids and females ruled Wednesday night's Bingo party as the prizes went quickly and often. Alison Cantwell started it off by taking home the apple butter. A while later, James Steele became the first male to earn a Capon goody– he walked away with the piquant dressing. Multiple winners yelled Bingo for the surprise box, but it was Cam Kirby who called it first. His reward: ringing the lunch bell – a jackpot for him since he had just asked the day before if it was possible for him to do it. Just before Chris Fox won the worst card game, John Emory called a special game wearing the oversized Bingo card he designed for Capon Halloween last year. Double winner, young Clayton Emory was first booed by a jealous crowd before being reminded about being a "Great Me." To fulfill her ultimate dream, Martha Socolar hollered a game called "Screwball." The evening ended the way it began with a young Allison winning. This time it was Allison Creutzer, and she took home the bag of cookies.

Capon code crackers

Teams such as Happy Faces, Dolphins and Sharks participated in this year's Caponchase adventure after lunch Wednesday. As usual, all the teams showed up on the Main front porch to get assistance from gamemaster Jonathan Bellingham at 4:00 pm.



Three Fisher Family teams were among the teams vying for the custom made water bottles. However, it was "Adrian's Army" (named in memory of the patriarch Adrian Recinos) that solved the three clues and reached the final answer first. Sally, with son Andrew and grandsons Chris and Tim, discovered the answer in 2 hours 55 minutes, solving Capon's biggest mystery in the process. As was the case in almost every treasure hunt this season, rain became a factor, as a late afternoon shower soaked the last few teams to finish.

Table Tennis Tourney



With a shortage of kids 14 and under, the Thursday afternoon ping pong event melded into an all-inclusive all-comers affair. From start to finish there was excitement and close games. Right off the bat there was a very intense match between Clayton Emory and Daigo Kawasaki. Clayton won and moved on to play a very skilled John Boochever. John barely defeated Clayton and moved on to face Jeremy Pinkerton in another hotly contested match. John advanced to the semis to face the much younger Jake Nicoll, who had risen up through the youth ranks. John's strength and size proved the difference as he advanced to the title match.

Waiting for him was Michael Snader who had blazed through the competition. In his semi-final match, Michael rolled over another Michael (Marquez) with a score of 21 to 10. In the championship match, Michael and John were very evenly matched. All the spectators agreed it could have gone either way, but today was Michael's day to finish on top. With only a three-point advantage, Michael edged John for the top prize with a score of 21 to 18.

Badminton Bash



After a few adds and drops, Friday's Pot Luck mixed doubles badminton tournament ended up with 26 participants. These 26 were ready for some intense badminton battles, but they were not ready for the effects of the wind and the sun. In every game the birdie was redirected by a gust of the indiscriminate air, and the sun was a challenge for many who happened to look up at the wrong time.

The team of Phillip Andrews and Tim Recinos were super dominant in their first two games, but in the semi-finals JoAnn Pinkerton and Sam Nicoll took control to move on to the finals. In the other semi-final match, the team of Steve Van Metre and Maddie Socolar (who had played badminton in high school) defeated Steve's daughter Abby Van Metre and her partner Keats Nicoll with a score of 11 to 5.

That set up a championship match between Steve and Maddie vs JoAnn and Sam. With Maddie's years of high school training and Steve's year's in the sky, they looked like they were the stronger team. But JoAnn and Sam proved that they could keep up with the best of them. After the game was all tied up 8 to 8. JoAnn and Sam decided that they were done playing around and won it all 11 to 8.

Tennis Court Action



Unlike past years when Fishers, Allens and Boochevers lined up for a chance to vie for tennis glory, this year's Mixed Doubles Tourney was cancelled due to lack of entrants. By Tuesday dinner, only four teams signed up, prompting Linda Joy to start recruiting to find four more teams to complete the minimum eight couples field. In the end, she had to turn over her own partner (husband Gregg) to her sister Mary, so she could team with the last lonely male "racketeer" John Boochever, creating the final team.

The low participant counts led to equally low game total counts so both flights finished up by 11:40 am. That meant the finals could be a full set and easily conclude before the first lunch bell. Bucking the tradition in order to keep his home-field advantage, John Boochever voted to host the championship match with his partner Linda Joy on the upper court instead of the usual lower court venue. (In the preliminary round, the two last minute entrants teamed together to have the best score of the day, winning 10 of 12 games.)

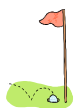


Meanwhile, Michael Snader and Melissa Jones edged out in their flight to advance to the big final game against John & Linda. With a close back-and-forth match, the early score was 4-4. Then Linda & John broke Melissa's serve and kept Linda's to win 6-4.

White Cliff Wonder



Next time you think you can't make one of Capon's hikes, think about Lily Dhu Walters. At 90 years young and both hips replaced only seven months ago, she climbed up to the top of White Cliff with many of her family members on Saturday morning.



Golfing Groups

In Tuesday's Pot Luck Best Ball Golf Tourney, two teams tied at 5 under par and needed to settle the score with a "putt-off." After all the balls were sent toward the hole, the team of Hal Souder, Kevin Steele, Dave Pytlewski, Gil Creutzer, Jim Van Metre and Kristin Sullivan were closest. Each member received a jar of Pearle's apple butter. That meant runners-up honors went to Mike Allen, Andy Sozio, John Fisher, Michael Snader, George Hope, and Emmy McArver. Five more teams finished one stroke behind 2nd place as all the teams shot par or better.

On Friday, the sixsome of Hank Allen, Bob Blankenship, Kevin Steele, Dennis McArver, David Socolar and Helen Davis scored birdies on the first five holes. Then they got two pars, followed by two more birdies to win. Their seven under par score of 28 was just enough for a one-shot victory over two other teams. The entire field finished a total of 55 strokes under par.

There were two teams tied for the runners-up position: Dan Webster, Michael Snader, Christine Tully, Gil Creutzer, Ryan Reis & John Myers and Philip Andrews, Keith Hope, A.J. Spring, Jon Markel, & Jen Allen.

(Kevin Steele claimed a "triple crown" of golf by being on the winning teams in both Capon tourneys AND the Fisher Family open.)

FREE THROW CONTEST

In Friday's free throw shooting contest, 17 people competed to see who was the week's best shot.



When the first round shooting was done, Andy Sozio was declared the winner by sinking 6 out of his 10 shots. The runner up still needed to be determined because Ben Sozio, Wayt Timberlake, Michael Snader and Oscar Boochever had all made 5 out of their 10 shots. In the tie-breaker round, Michael made more than all three of the other competitors to claim the second-place prize.

Runner's Results



Thankfully for this week's runners, the edge of scorching heat of Monday was eased by some afternoon breezes. Still the first real sultry weather of the summer pushed the milers in Tuesday's foot race. A total of 38 people ignored the heat and took off down the road. The large crowd of spectators was treated to the closest finish of the year, as Michael Snader, Michael Marquez, and Sam Nicoll were all battling it out up front. Sam had the early lead, but the two Michaels closed the gap causing a three-way sprint for home. Michael Snader barely edged out the other Michael to win in a time of 5:45. Sam had to settle for third but still took the age group win. Kent Correll and Chace Davis also led their divisions on the male side.

On the female side, once again Lissa DeFries was the fastest with a time of 6:31. The age group winners for the ladies included Abby Van Metre, Juliana Sozio, Melissa Jones and Laura Sozio. The best effort award was given to four-year-old Jackson Marquez, who placed 35th.

SHUFFLEBOARD ACTIVITIES



The bracket for kids' shuffleboard was perfectly filled with 8 teams this week. The first set of games went very quickly, with Ben Sozio and Jake Sullivan looking strong enough to go all the way. In the second round, they got closer to their goal by winning 43 to 7 against the team of Kaitlyn and Cam Kirby to move on to the finals. Waiting for them was Abby Van Metre and Adam Cantwell, who had won their semi-final match against Tim Recinos and Sarah Creutzer 34 to 11.

In the championship match, Ben and Jake took a commanding lead of 14 to -10 after the first round. They continued their dominance by scoring 15 more points in the next round. Although they were only one point away from victory, it took Ben and Jake three more rounds to put the game away 33 to 2.

Once again, despite some gentle prodding, some pairs in the adult division didn't get started until Thursday afternoon. That meant the top seeds (*meaning Fishers & Allens*) had to wait until Saturday morning to play the semis. (Even one quarterfinal wasn't completed until Saturday!) The father/daughter battle left Corky Sutter & Kristin McCutcheon grabbing the last semi spot after edging out Chris & Annie Fox. After lunch on Saturday, Kristin faced another Kristin (Sullivan partnered with husband Chris) for a chance at the finals to face John & Cathy Fisher. Come watch the dramatic conclusion Saturday after dinner.