

Bruce Meadows, Santa Rosa Reporter says

"If you're a golf course superintendent and you come up against a guy who doesn't call ahead for a starting time, doesn't pay green fees and won't even replace his divots after making a pig of himself on the fairway, what are you going to do?

Well, if you're Oakmont's Mike Clark, Golf Course Superintendent, you get your deer rifle and shoot him.

Sound a little harsh? Hold on a minute. This guy was a real pig, the kind that snorts and roots in the earth

Oakmont has been plagued off and on with "wild pigs" since 1968, but since mid-August of this year the problem has become acute. While rooting for food they've virtually destroyed the 16th fairway on the new East Course and left their mark on four fairways.

The offenders are not native wild pigs. About 30 years ago, some domestic pigs broke loose and took residence in the hills of Annadel State Park. They're usually content to stay there, venturing into civilized areas only when a lack of food or water forces them to do so. Now is one of those times.

Before the pigs could be shot, Mike has to get permission from the State Fish and Game Dept and he notifies the Santa Rosa police. They have bagged 6 pigs including a big boar complete with tusks.

Bennett Valley Golf Course where John Flachman is has also experienced a few problems. But they just sat down and told the pigs that they only had 18 holes and Oakmont 36 holes and gave them the directions to get there.

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Heard from Ellis Van Gorder He and Ardath have just returned from a freighter trip to the Orient. Probably our last. All 12 passenger freighters - except American President Lines - have an age limit of around 65. C.P.L. will take up to 82. This leaves me a year which is hardly enough time to accumulate enough pesos. They are still in Guaymus, Mexico. He says to say "Hello" to the few left who remember me. He enjoys reading THRU THE GREEN. Many changes in the 40 odd years since our first meeting. Van was a CHARTER member of GCSA of Northern California.

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GRADY SIMRIL reports that he is doing well. We're glad.

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WALTER BOYSEN who is retired (and wife Maxine) stopped by on their way to Yosemite and a few days of vacation. Plays golf 3 days a week and looking very well.

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Anyone with any news, tidbit, or info on anyone let me know, and we will circulate it.

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DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW and those that have paid will receive their membership cards by NOVEMBER 2nd.