

Holiday Update 2009

Dear Friends,

I can't believe it has been six years since Ted Sr. and I last sent out a newsletter accompanying our annual Christmas card. But as many of you know, I'm quite the environmentalist and, while I know how much you wanted to hear about the family, I just hated wasting so much paper. But now that I've discovered recycled toilet paper that you can use (only after reading about our little pumpkins!), we felt like it was time to give you an update — whether you want it or not. LOL!

First me, Tish. I've been very busy running the wine and Botox committees at our new club, Default Swappe Country Club, where we landed after Ted Sr. determined that St. Louis National was outdated in the modern game and not the challenge it was when we joined. And every time we take in the waterfalls, the floral arrangements in the shape of the club logo, the Botox injection parties, the 18,000-square-foot wine cellar and the sheer beauty of pothole-free cart paths, those \$1,099-a-month dues seem like such a bargain!

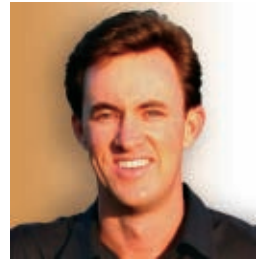
My oldest son, Ted Jr., who's 33 now, has been riding the coattails of his podiatry degree from the Dominican Republic's Bourbon School of Medicine (it's pronounced Bore-bone). Now happily married (again) to the lovely Mannyanna Ramirez, they're expecting their first child this spring and have already narrowed the possible boy names down to Hogan, Snead or Nelson. If it's a girl, they will pay homage to Ted Sr.'s favorite golf architect, Rees Jones. BTW, every Friday night, Ted Sr. and I watch Reese

TED SR. BROUGHT HIS GREEN CHAIRMAN

EXPERTISE TO THE CLUB, AND HAS MANAGED TO

EXTEND THE COURSE TO MORE THAN 7,800 YARDS

BY GEOFF SHACKELFORD



Witherspoon in "Legally Blonde 2," so now we just have to decide on the proper spelling!

Our oldest daughter, Tammie, 25, is thinking about going back to UT to get her degree now that her five-year tour of European cities has ended. For those of you who followed her travels on Facebook, you also know she's been working at our club and will be featured on the September page of the new calendar, Beverage Cart Girls of the Midwest. Who would have thunk it? Tammie in the golf business!

The baby of the family, Tim, who's 23 now, is doing so well now thanks to the blessed staff at Passing Through in Malibu, Calif., where he got to know a major Hollywood producer who was looking to shed the same illness of being addicted to three different painkillers. Tim reports he has found great solace in the Church of Scientology and will be directing his first feature film this fall! Even better, Tim has Ted Sr.'s golf bug now, so he used his \$1 million advance to buy a home in the Hollywood Hills and a junior membership at Bel-Air Country Club. Ted Sr. can't wait to get out there to rate the course for Golf Digest and maybe take a lesson from the world-famous Little Pro, Eddie Merrins!

Speaking of Ted Sr., with all of that extra time after deciding to take early retirement from his vice presidential position at Drill Down Capital, he has brought his green chairman expertise to the club, where he has managed to get five new back tees added that extend the course more than 7,800 yards. His next goal is to secure a U.S. Open since the United States Golf Association is looking for a Midwest venue. Keep your fingers crossed!

Ted Sr. doesn't know it yet, but I bought him one of the USGA's new TruFirm green firmness measuring devices to go along with the gold-plated, name-engraved Stimpmeter I got him a few years ago. Yes, it's going to be a special Christmas morning!

So, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Default Swappe Country Club's favorite family,

— *Ted Sr., Tish, Ted Jr.,
Tammie and Tim*

You may e-mail Geoff Shackelford at geoffshac@me.com as long you're not sending a year-end family update. You can also follow Shack, Golfdom's contributing editor, at www.geoffshackelford.com or via [Twitter.com/GeoffShackelford](https://twitter.com/GeoffShackelford).