

#73 - Sketch of a West Pointer – Jim Bones



Jim Bones joined West Point Golf Club in 2014. Over the years he has won many events, some of which he was part of a team, others while performing as an individual competitor. In 2021, he was the victor in the Match Play Championship, Flight C. For the past two years, Jim has provided his services as a member of the Captain's Table, a task that is very important to the successful running of our club. We appreciate all the volunteers who assist with the smooth operation of West Point.

Jim was born March 21, 1944 in London, England. His mother was a war bride. Jim travelled with her to Canada in 1946 aboard the RMS Aquitania to re-unite with his father, who had been repatriated back to Canada after serving in the Canadian army during the Second World War. The ocean liner Aquitania retired from the Cunard Line

in 1950, after 450 round trips across the Atlantic logging 3 million miles and carrying 1.2 million passengers.

Jim recalls growing up in St. Catharines, Ontario, which is a stone's throw from Toronto. His sport of choice was hockey with a little baseball thrown in. While attending school he was also very involved with track and field. As one would expect from Jim, he gave back to his community by coaching minor hockey and minor fastball teams for over 20 years.

After completing his high school education in St. Catharines he moved to Montreal where he began his working career as a Forge Shop Estimator. He returned to St. Catharines after nearly two years and took a position with Ferranti Packard and later John Inglis as a Time-Motion Analyst. Jim spent most of his career employed by Dana Incorporated, a multi-national automotive parts manufacturer and held a number of management and senior management positions before retiring in 2004, after 34 years of service.

Romantically, Jim was fortunate in meeting his wife, Vivi, on a blind date in 1964. They married in 1967 and were blessed with the arrival of their only child, Jonathan, in 1970. Jim and Vivi moved to B.C. in 2010 and settled in New Westminster. Their reason for leaving the east coast was to be closer to family. Jonathan and his wife had a baby, Bella, and needless to say, Jim's wife was not going to live so far from their only grandchild - so they packed up and ventured west. Shortly after their move to New Westminster they were attracted to the False Creek area, where they currently reside.

Jim started playing golf while living in Montreal and over the years it became his obsession. He enjoys playing and watching the sport. Among his favourite professional golfers are Arnold Palmer, Tiger Woods and Brooke Henderson. He likes Palmer for the way Arnold changed the game and for his attention to the adoring fans. Tiger is a favourite because of his immense talent which led to an astonishing career. He applauds Brooke not only for her accomplishments on the links but also for representing Canada so well.

One of Jim's favourite courses is the Hamilton Golf and Country Club, renowned as one of the top courses in Canada; it has hosted the Canadian Open six times with the seventh planned for 2024. Glen Abbey is the second on his list, partly because it is one of the most famous courses and has been host to the men's Canadian Open 30 times. He likes Taboo Golf Course, located at a beautiful resort in

Muskoka, Ontario. Its draw is the sheer beauty of the course and a very tough track, as he has experienced.

Travel has always been a passion for Jim and his wife; they have travelled extensively since they retired. Some of their more memorable trips have taken them to China, Egypt, South Africa, England, France, Denmark, Spain, Portugal and Morocco – not to mention the many trips to warmer climates during our winter months. They are looking forward to a vacation in Florence, Italy, in the spring of 2024.

Jim has always considered golf and travel as his hobbies. He and Vivi played bridge before Covid but unfortunately, Covid put an end to that activity. However, they are always exploring new hobby opportunities to meet people and occupy their time.

Jim credits West Point Golf Club and its membership for providing him with the opportunity to play the game he loves. You'll have to admit that it's always a pleasant round when playing in a foursome with Jim. Our Club president has just announced that Jim has come forward to volunteer as the new coordinator of our Tuesday Riverway games, succeeding Chris Murray. Thanks from the members.

*Prepared from material submitted by Jim to Lorne Lindsay - July - September, 2023
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