

The Meadowstrokes

The Newsletter of The Meadows Country Club

www.meadowsc.org

April 15, 2010

FROM THE BOARD ROOM

As the new President of your Board of Governors, I have had a couple of very interesting weeks. My predecessor, Dick Fedelem, did a great job of preparing me for the tasks before us. Tips, checklists and some real good advice have all been very helpful. Thank you, Dick.

We have appointed Committee Chairs and these folks are off and running. The activities of our Club carry on with lots of good people contributing their time and effort to the cause.



A very important activity for the coming year for your Board will be to review the existing Strategic Plan. We will do this as a part of the Board planning session scheduled for late April. This will create the framework for whatever actions your Board will take over the next couple of years relating to our Club.

We will also take a look at our Long Range Plan to see what, if anything, we can do in the short run. Why now? Have you noticed the media reports of an awakening

economy? Home sales are up locally. The stock market (a leading indicator) shows promise. While there are several shaky economic signals, your Board wants to be ready to move should the economy show real progress in the near future.

Another valid reason for looking at both our Strategic Plan and our Long Range Plan is that we are facing some aging facilities; the Pro Shop, Cart Barn and the porte cochere are all in need of repairs and maybe even replacement.

We are getting along with these facilities because of the efforts of one of your Club's unsung heroes, Mike Law, the Facilities Maintenance Manager. I think Mike and his crew must live on the premises. They are all over the place making the repairs necessary to keep things ship shape. They do an amazing job! Please give them a big hello and a friendly wave when you see them cruising in the area in their carts. They deserve it!

Have you noticed the "Employee of the Quarter" award plaque as you enter the Fountain View Lounge from the north entrance? Better take a look at the picture to see the 3 special people in our Accounting Department who have been duly recognized. Mary Iovine, Sandy Ely and Claudia Youngblood deserve our thanks for doing their jobs on a continuing high level. When you drop off your monthly payment, how about stopping into the accounting area and say thanks!

That's it from the Board Room for now. Remember, smiling takes far fewer muscles than frowning!

Thanks for your support.

Fred Jensen, President

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

It is hard to believe we are coming to the end of our winter season. This has undoubtedly been the strangest season I have ever experienced in the 13 plus years I have managed country clubs in Florida. I have never seen it this cold or this wet and by all accounts there have been records set in both regards over the past three months. As you can imagine, the cold weather has not been beneficial to the Club. Golf rounds are down and when there is no golf, there is less food and beverage. The department heads have done their usual stellar job of keeping expenses in line and we will be evaluating each area of the Club to determine what can be done to mitigate some of the lost income. The good news is that we are basically debt free and able to handle the financial difficulties much better than most of the other area clubs.



Those of you returning to your northern homes, please travel safely and have an enjoyable summer; we will look forward to your return. As we wish our northern members farewell, we will also be promoting our summer membership program. Please help us promote the benefits of your Club and remember that the summer program is our most significant source of new members for the Club. With these extra members, we will also have a full schedule of events during the summer so look at the calendar and plan to attend.

Q How many summer members did we have last year and how many do we expect this year?

A We had 403 last year and we hope to exceed that number this year.

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Welcome New Members

Robert Haines Tennis
Sarasota, FL

Martin Kodish Sports
Moodus, CT

Thomas & Marsha Zed..... Sports
Rothesay, New Brunswick, Canada
referred by James & Shirley Waddell

Reinaldo & Elin Ayerbe..... Social Associate
Skaneateles, NY

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

continued from page 1

Q A Full member can get a 9 hole rate on the Groves but not a Sports member; why?

A A Full member pays almost 5 times the dues that a Sports member pays and along with the additional dues come some privileges that no other membership has. Being a Full member is about more than just not paying a fee for golf. The Club has specified certain privileges only for Full members. There is always a reason why someone may feel that a particular privilege should not apply; however, the premise of a worthwhile privilege is something that someone else would like to have.

Q Is it true that we are putting a pool table and a ping pong table in the Tennis Pro Shop?

A Yes, we will be constructing a wall to make an area for the merchandise as you come into the shop. The large space that is now a sitting area will be turned into a recreation area with a pool table and table tennis (ping pong). There will be tables for food and beverage service and the area will function as an extension of the Centre Court Lounge. We will also be installing flat screen TVs and surveillance cameras.

Q Aren't we encouraging bad behavior by selling alcoholic beverages on the golf course from the beverage cart and snack bar?

A There are many golfers who enjoy having an alcoholic beverage while playing golf. Like all the other clubs in the area, we sell these beverages and there is no record of any alcohol related misbehavior that I could find in any of the Club's records. Since a golfer only comes in contact with the snack bar or beverage cart on an intermittent basis, the possibility they could become intoxicated is limited.

Doug Domino, CCM General Manager

WELCOME EXECUTIVE CHEF

J. Allen Sides

Our new Executive Chef joined The Meadows Country Club team last month and has already made a great impression with his culinary talents and friendly personality. Chef Sides was raised on military bases in the Pacific and educated in Scotland. He graduated with a B.Sc., Honors, in Hotel & Hospitality Management from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland, and the Royal Academy of Culinary Arts, Hannaford, Scotland.

Chef Sides brings over 24 years of experience in food preparation and kitchen, banquet and restaurant operations for leading restaurants, resorts and country clubs. He and his wife, Lynn, have two boys ages 10 and 12 and they are all looking forward to living in Sarasota, Florida.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Two new members joined the Club in March which brings us year-to-date to 9 new members.

This year appears to be another challenging one. Thank you to all who have referred friends to the Club. We ask for your continued support and efforts in bringing in new members. The **New Member Incentive Program** is still ongoing, so in addition to your helping the Club, you can begin enjoying monthly credits for up to two years for new annual members under the New Member Incentive Program! Please call me at 378-5957 for more details.

We are gearing up for the start of the **Summer Membership Program**. It starts on May 1 and goes through October 31, and it is a great way for your friends to try out the Club for the summer, so be sure to tell them about it.

Seasonal Memberships are significantly up from last year with 74 Seasonal Members. So many of our Seasonal Members have told me how much they have enjoyed the Club, and we certainly have enjoyed having them.

Have a wonderful spring.

Glenda Bachner, Membership Sales Director

In Memoriam

Members and staff wish to convey their sincere sympathy to the families of

James A. Phillips ~ Helen Bavisotto
Jack Barton ~ Cathy Jones ~ Earl Staffen



2010 CHEF'S CHALLENGE

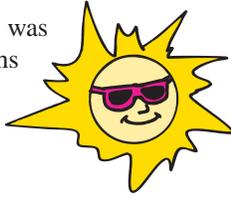
Member's Choice Award

Congratulations to Chris Graham, who captured first place in the 5th Annual Chef's Challenge with his presentation of New Zealand lamp chops. The competitive spirit was all around as members enjoyed a fun-filled evening of culinary creations from around the world.



GREAT SEASON AT THE DICKENS

Another great season and the only glitch was someone pressed fast forward and the months flashed by in a blurr! Here's to all those who so generously contributed to the success of the 2009-2010 season.



Thanks to co-chair **Bea Gross** and **Margaret Sherman** of the **Dickens Committee**, our members got flu shots. Thanks to **Betty Johnson** with Ladies Bridge, **Lucille Spicer** with Evening Bridge and **Bruce Blidner & Bill Thompson** with Men's Bridge for organizing and arranging bridge games all year long for our bridge players, as well as Mrs. Johnson's lovely bridge luncheons. Thanks to **Harriette Buckman** for providing advanced-intermediate bridge instruction to members eager to improve their bridge technique. A special thank you to the **Computer Committee: co-administrators/instructors Don Scholten** and **Dave Francisco**, **instructors, Rosemary Lindores, Dave Johnston & Mark Duren**, **check-ins Rick Dettloff** and **Mary Ann Scholten**, for providing another season of innovative computer classes. Thanks also to **Don Scholten, Dave Francisco** and the **Computer Committee** for arranging another great "Electronic Night" with the Geek Squad from Best Buy. Thanks to the **Library Committee**, co-chair **Peg Kaiser, Pat Wu** and **Lois Clarkson** for tending the Dickens lending library with

FEELING FIT

I got started in fitness at age 16 during a 26 month battle with leukemia. During that time, I had a lot of depression, a lot of hopelessness, 100 extra pounds of fat and a body that couldn't walk 2 blocks without passing out. I was in sad shape. Not only did setting the goal of getting myself in amazing physical condition give me something positive to work towards everyday, but it seemed to give me a reason to get out of bed in the morning and give life my best shot. 18 months later, I was done with treatment; I had a six pack, more endurance than most all my friends and tremendous respect for the value of health and life.



In 2004, I realized my passion was to help others accomplish the same thing, so I decided to become a personal trainer. Since then, I've been blessed to have been taught and guided by some of the greatest minds in the industry, men and women who have dedicated their lives to the relentless study of the human body. I was fortunate enough to be exposed to some very unique courses of study, as well as a unique method for restoring body alignment and function called Muscle Activation Techniques (MAT). I'm currently one of only 13 people in the state of Florida certified to practice MAT.

I consider it an honor to be here at The Meadows and I look forward to my future here.

Chris Vercelli, Resistance Training Specialist, MAT Specialist

DRESS CODE UPDATE - Blue denim is now accepted attire in the Fountain View Lounge. We ask our members and guests to remember that ragged, torn, or frayed attire is inappropriate.

loving care. Finally, special thanks to **Crystal** and the **Fitness Staff** for overseeing everything at the Dickens, **Jan Friday** for teaching our members Texas Hold'em and directing the bus to Hard Rock and **Mike Law and staff** for being there for all of us.



May 1 begins another exciting summer season and another opportunity for your friends to become new members at The Meadows Country Club. If your summer plans include traveling afar, take good care of yourself and hurry back. We'll be here waiting for you.

Jan Bell, Membership Services Director

DID YOU KNOW?

You can update your profile in the **online directory** to add your spouse. Currently the online directory only lists the member of record and doesn't include the spouse's name. Simply edit your personal entry by adding your spouse's name along with your own in the **display name** section. Example: Doe, John Q. and Jane. You can also add your spouses' email address in the **secondary email address** section. Be sure the **receive email** box is **checked** so that your spouse will receive club e-mail bulletins. And finally, don't forget to **save** your changes!

COUPLES GOLF

The golf season is winding down and another Couples Golf season is nearly complete. We have had a very full season. I would like to extend our congratulations to all the winners: Marion & Irene Pye, Ron & Dian Calleja*, Tom & Elaine Meurer, Phil & Priscilla Trussell, Steve & Jane Sherwood*, Joe Keif* & Barbara Carver*, Norm & Carol Langlois, Malcolm & Cathy Hay, Ian & Irene MacNeil*, Dan & Kathy Cholish, Rich & Sue Portland, Jud & Louise Werbelow, Bob & Faye Galpin, Doug & Eade Duncan, Ted & Karen Metzger, Don & Sandy Famous, Ken & Paula Conry, Steve & Laurie Teachout, Malcolm & Joan Lowther, and Vic & Barbara Morrison. The asterisk is for multiple winners. Our special congratulations to our newly crowned **Mr. & Mrs. Club Champions John & Peta Oxley**.

It was a unanimous consensus that our schedule was too busy this season; therefore, we will be addressing that issue for the 2010/2011 season. The **Scottish Scramble "8"** is planned for April 23; stop by the Pro Shop and sign up for this fun tournament.

A special thanks to those who served on the Couples Golf Committee this year: Mary & Bill Barnard, Suzy & Barry Benjamin, Dian & Ron Calleja, Sheila & Erwin Horwitz, Sigrid & Fred Jensen, Carol & Frank Kenny, Joann & George Kertesz, Sylvia & Gerry Smith, and our Board Liaison Don Patterson. Great job done by all. Brenda and I will be stepping down as co-chairs and wish our successors Carol & Frank Kenny much success.

On tap this summer, we will be trying to reach out to summer members to participate in more couples events. If we can do anything to make your golf experience more enjoyable, please let us know your thoughts.

Have a wonderful, healthy and safe summer. See you in the fall.

Brenda & Deke Farmer, Co-Chairs

18 HOLE LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

This year we were plagued, dismayed and disgusted by a 7-letter word: **Weather**. Fooled you. Did you think it was putting? And you can't reschedule weather.

Enough said.

You could see a "sea of pink" on our golf course and clubhouse on February 16 when 9 and 18-Hole LGA members and friends participated in **The Rally for the Cure Tournament, Raffle and Luncheon**. Over



LGA Presidents Laurie Teachout & Susan Francisco.

\$18,000 was donated to the Susan G. Komen Fund – a record for our Club. Heartfelt thanks to Rally Co-Chairs Kathy Brostrom and Hannah Weinberg plus their dedicated committee members for a job well done. With such a winning combination, the plan for next year is to continue the joint tournament with both organizations.

For the second year in a row, The USA Team was defeated by the "rest of the world" in the **International Match Play Tournament** by a score of 96 vs. 84. The wind and chill did not seem to deter the internationals, although every player was happy to complete their round and head for cocktails where it was warm.

Due to – that's right – weather, all flights in the Ladies **Club Championship** were just two rounds. Veronica Johnson hoisted her trophy high for the 7th consecutive year as our Ladies Overall Club



Overall 2010 Ladies Club Champion Veronica Johnson with Director of Golf Mike McClellan

Champion. Veronica led the field with a 2-round gross score of 153. Felicitations, Veronica, for consistent stellar play, and another year as a true Meadows mentor. Other LGA-ers who captured top honors in their flights were:

Flight A Claire Barnett; *Flight AA* Louisa Rutman, Lea Hardman; *Flight B* Sylvia Smith, Dotty Fedelem; *Flight C* Barbara Carver, Sue Frecska; *Flight D* Carol Wood, Fredy Jacobson.

We were pleasantly surprised to have over 170 players golf-carting *Around the World in 18 Holes* at our Annual **Member-Guest Day** on March 9. That 7-letter word cooperated which brought

smiles to Chairperson Kathy Horowitz and her Committee. When members and their guests entered the Regency Room for lunch, they discovered a colorful pashima shawl on their chair as a thank you for playing at The Meadows.



Colorful Cover-ups a la Meadows

This year's top winners were: Meadows Course 2 BB of 4: Patti Patterson, Merri Bowmaster, Rachael Maney, Jacquai Rall – gross 153. Meadows Course 2 BB of 4: Laurie Teachout, Rosemary Maglio, Betty Verica, Dian Calleja – net 114. Highlands Course 2 BB of 4: Dotty Fedelem, Susan Greenblatt, Sheila Horwitz, Diana Armbrust – net 111. Nearest-to-the-Pin: Rutelle Emridge, Sylvia Smith, Dorothy Eary, Maggie Carruthers.

The season is coming to a close for **Interclub Leagues**. Chair Carol Weist's team's last match was on April 8 and she's still looking for a few players for 10 matches beginning in the fall. If you have an index of 28 or lower and enjoy good fun and camaraderie, talk to Carol. Our **Gulf Coast** women had another good season of competition and the team was trending to finish in the upper half after their last match on April 9. Co-Chair Evy Roberts especially wants to thank the "subs" for their terrific performance.

Following an ABCD morning scramble, the Association's **Closing Luncheon** and Annual Meeting will be held on April 20. At the meeting, the membership will be voting on a change in the wording of the current Constitution so that we will conform to the structure of The Meadows Country Club. The recommendation, which is posted in the ladies locker room, is: "**Constitution would read as By-Laws and By-Laws would be read as Rules and Regulations.**"

For those of you who already departed to northern quarters after Easter, we'll miss seeing you this summer and await your return come fall. For those summer stick-arounds, see you at The Club.

Peggy Lowndes

Look for The Meadows Country Club
online – find us @ <http://www.meadowsc.org>
(941) 371-6000 Fax (941) 379-9869



9 HOLE LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION

The LGA Nine Hole Ladies have completed their **Club Championship** and Judy Bauer is the new champion. Judy also won in 2001 and 2008. She is not only a very good golfer but a major contributor to the Nine Hole LGA. She has been the extremely efficient treasurer for the past two years and will soon be elected to another term.



9 Hole LGA Club Champion Judy Bauer accepts the trophy from Director of Golf Mike McClellan.

Judy is a whiz on her computer and cheerfully makes many of the posters, certificates and forms for the leagues activities. Way to go, Judy! Laeh Grant and Sharon Daga finished in second and third places. We played day one of the championship in 45 degree weather and day two in 25 mph winds, so it was an endurance test as well as a championship.

The nominating committee, chaired by Joyce Holub, has presented the new slate to be elected in April. They are: Terri Johnson, President; Carole Dorsey, Vice-President; Ellie Brewster, Secretary and Judy Bauer, Treasurer.

Our **Member-Guest** day on March 18 was a fun and successful event. Guests came from other clubs around the area and also



Mary Herrman, Chair Roz Levin, Pauline Kabcenell.

from our own 18 Hole LGA. Roz Levin was the chair and she was assisted by Mary Herrman and Pauline Kabcenell. It was a new and unique environmental theme, *Go Green with Golf*. Everyone received a green canvas shopping bag and the prizes were also *green*. And, of course, we wore green and decorated the tables with fresh green vegetables.

Many of our golfers attended the first ever **Club Championship Recognition BBQ** dinner on March 21. It was moved indoors due to yet another day of bad weather. Our two major champions, Judy Bauer (Club Champion) and Susan Francisco (President's Cup) were delighted to be honored at this very nice event.



popular **Nine & Dine** begins May 4 and the sign-up will be in the locker room. Annette and Tony Dammicci are great sports to be chairing this for the third year. And, even though the official "season" ends on April 30, the Niners will still be golfing every Thursday morning all summer long and summer members are invited to join in the fun. And in the Florida heat, if it ever comes, Nine holes are just right!

Susan Francisco

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to the Men's Club Champion John Oxley.



Congratulations to the Mr. & Mrs. Club Champions! Peta and John Oxley accept the award from Director of Golf Mike McClellan.



Director of Golf Mike McClellan congratulates Marty Adams and Fred Theiler, winners of the Member/Guest tournament.

FROM THE TEE

Reciprocal privileges will begin on May 1. Reciprocals are available for golf to all Full/Intermediate members.

There is two-day advance tee times for reservations and all tee times will be made by the Meadows golf staff. Stop by the Golf Shop if you have any questions about the reciprocal program.

Upcoming Golf Events in May – A Memorial Day Golf Outing/Barbecue will be held on **May 31**. The event will be a 12:30 p.m. shotgun and the format is a 4-person scramble. Barbecue and awards will follow by the pool. Members can sign up in the Golf Shop 30 days in advance. So get your best team together and don't miss out on the fun.

New! Monday – Men's 9 at 9:00 a.m. The format is nine holes at 9:00 and will start on **Monday, May 3**. Sign up in the Golf Shop.

Check it out! **Thursday Night Golf League** is for all players and will **start on Thursday, May 13**. It is an 8 week league flighted by handicap and the format is individual low net. The top five places each week will earn points. The most points at the end of the eight weeks will win prizes. If you are not in the league there will be a side game for net/gross skins and closest to pin prizes. Contact the Golf Shop for more information.

Golf Instruction - May is **PGA Free Lesson Month** and our Golf Professional Staff will be offering Free 10 minute lessons on **Saturday, May 15th**. Sign up for a time in the Golf Shop.

Also, **Free Family Golf Clinic** on Friday, May 21 from 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Sign up in the Golf Shop.

Golf Clinics will be offered every Saturday in May (except May 15 – free lesson day) from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Dress Code Reminder: The dress code for golf pertains to all golf courses and practice areas. A majority of our violations occur on the driving range. Men must wear shirts with collars and no denim or athletic shorts. Women's shirts – if collarless must have sleeves; if sleeveless must have a collar. Women shorts must be mid-thigh or longer and no denim.

Pace of Play expectations for 18 holes on the Meadows or Highlands courses is 4 hours. If a group is behind Pace of Play guidelines we would like you to call the Golf Shop and notify them of the situation, so that the Golf Professional staff may help solve the problem. Thank you for your cooperation.

Meadows Cup – The Meadows Cup Pro-Am Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, April 17. The event will be a 1:00 p.m. Shotgun on both the Meadows and Highlands Courses. The event this year will have 200 amateurs and 50 golf professionals participating. Availability for tee times will be a 7:45 a.m. Shotgun on the Highlands. The Groves will be open but for walkers only. Also, there will be no Men's Golf event held that day. Thank you for your support of the Meadows Cup Pro Am and Easter Seals.

Mike McClellan, Director of Golf

MEN'S GOLF

Congratulations to the winners of the following tournaments: **The Meadows Classic**, flight 1 – John Stanton & Ed Meredith; flight 2 – Bill Sauer & John Halk; flight 3 – Joe Baubonis & Don Andreoli; flight 4 – Bill Hanson & Jim Clancy. **The Barrett Nichols Senior Club Championship** - Bob Mulig; the **President's Cup** - Bert Haring; the **Member/Guest** – Marty Adams and Fred Theiler; the Club Championship, A flight – Jay Engstrom; B flight – Allan Barnett; C flight – Tony Morgano; D flight – Bud Duffey and especially to our new **Club Champion** – John Oxley. Having played in all, I can vouch that a good time was had by all.

Also this year for the first time, we had a recognition dinner for the champions the evening following the Club Championship. The food was delicious and the attendance was great. Nice way to recognize and support our new champions.

As of this writing, we have one tournament remaining – the **Two Ball Member/Member-Member/Guest Championship** on April 24. We're looking forward to a full field so please sign up in the Pro Shop as soon as possible. Ben Klein, Jim Tennant and Ellis Lasberg are all geared up for the **Interclub** and are looking forward to a busy summer.

I would like to thank the members of the Men's Golf Committee for their great effort this year: Bob Galpin, Bert Haring, Malcolm Hay, Ben Klein, Ellis Lasberg, John Meyers, Bob Mulig and our Board Liaison Don Patterson. A special thanks to John Meyers for handling the secretary's duties so well.

The Men's Golf Committee is committed to improving the already wonderful golf at The Meadows Country Club. Any helpful suggestions for the betterment of all is welcomed.

Hope you all have a wonderful, healthy, and safe summer. See you in the fall.

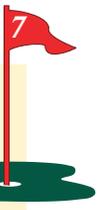
Deke Farmer, Chairman



Bob Mulig receives the Barrett Nichols Senior Club Championship trophy from Golf Pro David Nichols.

UPCOMING TENNIS EVENTS

May 8 – Mother's Day RR; **May 15** – Member/Summer Member Guest RR; **May 31** – Memorial Day RR; **June 14 to August 13** – Summer Sports Camp. Contact the Tennis Pro Shop at 378-5265 for more information and to sign up.



CONGRATULATIONS!



*Men's 3.0 Doubles: Finalists Saul Feldman/Steve Krieger
Champions Sam Mihalec/Jim McCormack*



*Men's 3.5 Doubles: Finalists Bill Mauck/Dick Spicer
Champions David Nevins/Jim Hansen*



*Ladies 4.0 Doubles: Champions Pat Bitcon/Ann Moore
Finalists Mona Kleitch/Caroline Daher*



*Ladies Open Doubles: Champions Bobbi Hurwitz/Linda Pelletier
Finalists Linda Wethe/Catherine Ferretti*



*Ladies 3.5 Doubles: Finalists Rita Hallerdin/Cathy Cyrus
Champions Connie Trottier/Mary Beth Grenier*



*Men's 4.0 Doubles: Finalists Jay Engstrom/HJ Sauer
Champions John Gunkler/Francisco Diaz*



*3.0 Mixed Doubles: Champions Saul Feldman/Donna Baranowski
Finalists Mary Jane Bailey/Sam Mihalec*



*3.5 Mixed Doubles: Finalists Dick Spicer/Anne Robinson
Champions Catherine & Dick Hynes*



*4.0 Mixed Doubles: Champions Jay Engstrom/Linda Pelletier
Finalists Ann Moore/Dave Mountain*

UPCOMING EVENTS



SEAFOOD BUFFET
Thursday, April 29
\$39.50 ++



*Mother's Day**
Sunday, May 9

\$27.95 ++

**Jackets for gentlemen 13 years & older*



Coming in May
to the Tennis Pro Shop

A Member Recreational Area

Enjoy a game of table tennis

Shoot a friendly game of pool

Catch the scores on new flat screen TVs

Sit back and relax

And have a beverage or a sandwich



All in the new Member Lounge
located in the Tennis Pro Shop

Kindly call 378-2135 for reservations.

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