

1912 LTCC

(Again, much credit goes to Mr. Clint Starke for most of the information)

February 15, 1912 from the Lockport Daily Journal

NEW COUNTRY CLUB CERTAIN

**Lockport Organization Raises \$12,000 For Initial Start on Chestnut Ridge
Undertaking – New Plans are Ideal**

“A country clubhouse and grounds of nearly 40 acres in extent on the Van Shuler property on Chestnut Ridge Heights is now assured for Lockport by the decision of the Town and Country Club to purchase the tract and erect a handsome bungalow thereon.

...The location is in every way ideal and the proposed clubhouse...will overlook the heart of Niagara’s fruit region and the view includes the blue waters of the lake.

...The laying out of the links will be the first work taken up on the grounds and a course, pronounced decidedly interesting according to golfers is made possible by the sloping nature of the tract.”

January 30, 1913 from the Lockport Union

HANDSOME NEW COUNTRY CLUB OPENS THIS EVENING

Proudly and justly so, the Country Club formally opens its handsome new home on Chestnut Ridge with a reception and ball this evening...The consummation of the hope for such a home is now a reality, is a tribute to the energies of the club members and the enthusiasm with which workers got behind President Charles W. Moss in materializing his original ideas.

...The club has 200 members. Mr. Moss is President; H. Gardner Jackson, secretary; William McArthur, treasurer; and Robert Hall and H.J. Fenton are directors. The building of the new home was in charge of Mr. Moss, assisted by Mr. James S. Liddle, as supervisor of construction, B.V. Covert of the house, Mr. Fenton, the decorations, Mr. Jackson, the tennis courts, Mr. Wallace I Keep, the golf course, and Mr. A. Raphael Beck, the landscape.

An article written by H. Katherine Smith in the Buffalo Courier Express on August 14, 1932 was titled “Steady Expansion Proves Lockport Club’s Popularity.” In it she describes the golf course as follows:

“The Van Shuler vineyard was transformed into the present nine hole golf course, which visitors maintain, can be played with enjoyment only be eagles and mountain goats. It has been remarked frequently that the legs of Lockport golfers are distinctive in contour, bulging in unexpected places from climbing and descending the hills of the course. But Town and Country Club members are bored with the level links of neighboring communities. With reason, they claim that no nine-hole

course of this vicinity presents greater variety than theirs. The ninth hole is short, but so steep, that the ball must be shot perpendicularly into the air. Then there is the drive across the lake, graveyard for hundreds, if not thousands, of balls. It is by no means the longest of the drives; but the water has a psychological effect – just another example of the devastating influence of fear. With the women, pride gives way to frugality, and “floaters” are used for that hole; but the men would not stoop to such an admission of weakness: Wallace I. Keep challenges fate by invariably choosing his best ball for the shot.”

From the Buffalo Courier Express 1913:

“The entrance of the English type is at the southwest corner and into a large reception hall from which a stairway leads to the lower floor. A large fireplace lends to the warmth of it. French windows and doors open to the verandas on the north and east sides. West of this room are the billiard and card rooms. On the southwest corner are the kitchen and serving rooms.

On the lower floors are large handsome rooms for the men and ladies respectively, with lockers, shower baths, toilets, etc. On the southwest corner of this floor are the living rooms of the steward.”